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THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE
BRITISH EMPIRE



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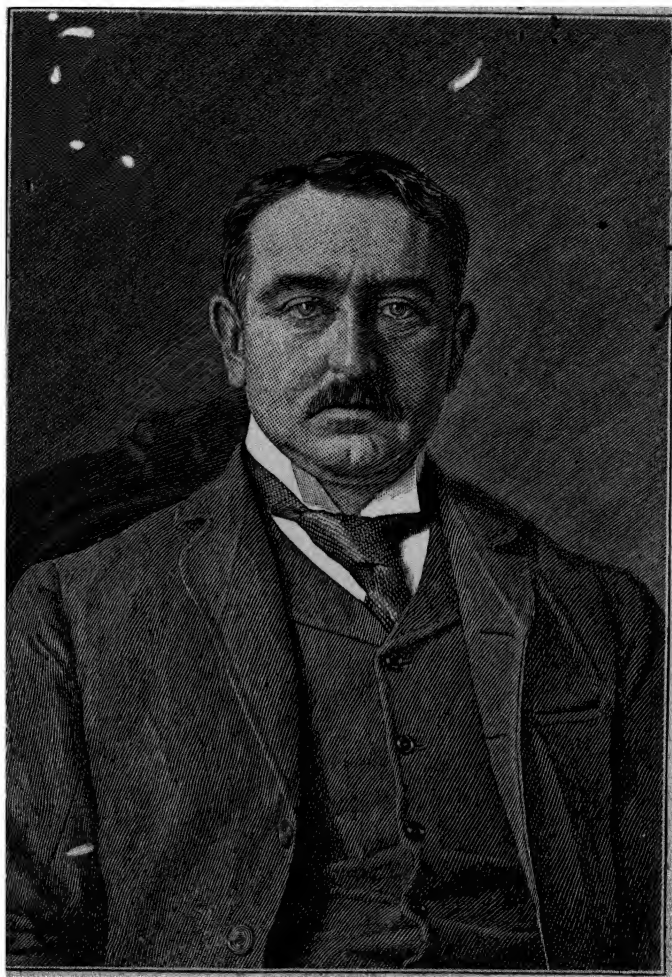


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CECIL RHODES

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

BY

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INDIAN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE (RETIRED)

FELLOW OF ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY, LONDON, AND

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CHAPTER I

BEGINNINGS OF EMPIRE

THE British Empire consists of the mother-country and her overseas possessions. The mother country first overcame all disruptive tendencies and realised her national unity, she then used the valour and enterprise of her sailors to gain Sea Power, and by means of her Sea Power she acquired and retained possessions in all quarters of the globe.

Definition of
the British
Empire

Acquisition of
the over seas
possessions

The subjection of the Nobility and the Church, and their submission to the Crown as the representative of the national unity, and the consequent formation of a strong central government under the Tudor kings were necessary steps in the unification of the nation. The monarchs of this family understood the suitability of the geographical position of England to be the centre of a world-wide commerce, and they realised the necessity of a navy to assert England's mastery of the seas around her coast, and to protect her infant commerce. In former times, whenever a fleet was wanted, it was temporarily hired from the maritime towns, but for the adequate protection of trade, it was necessary that the fleet should be constantly at sea. The Tudor monarchs therefore laid the foundation of the permanent English Navy. They

Unification of
the nation
under the
Tudors

Formation
of the English
navy

2 DEVELOPMENT OF BRITISH EMPIRE

The Renaissance lived at a time peculiarly favourable to the conception of great ideals. It was the period of the Renaissance or rebirth of learning, which followed the capture of Constantinople by the Turks in 1453, when men were beginning to discover the world, and to rediscover their own nature by the revival of the study of the classics.

Maritime discovery Columbus discovered America in 1492, and Vasco da Gama sailed round the Cape of Good Hope to India in 1497-98. In the same year, the Cabots (John

Newfoundland the first British colony and his son Sebastian), sailing from Bristol under a patent from Henry VII, discovered Newfoundland, opened up the cod fisheries in the adjoining seas, made their way along the shores of Labrador and Cape Breton, and on their return voyage passed down the North American coast as far as Florida. Newfoundland was again visited by Sir Humphrey Gilbert in 1583, and became the oldest colony of the British Empire, when settlers from Bristol permanently occupied the shores of Conception Bay in 1610. The colony was given responsible government about the middle of the last century. Newfoundland only comes to our notice in the later history of the Empire, when the Anglo-American and Anglo-French fishery disputes relative to this colony were settled in the early part of the twentieth century.

Effect of these discoveries These geographical discoveries had very great influence on the future history of Europe. Before this time the Mediterranean was the centre of the known world, and the nations round the Mediterranean had the largest share of its commerce. After these discoveries, the centre of commercial gravity passed from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic, and the countries

on the Atlantic seaboard outstripped those round the Mediterranean in commercial importance. Thus Spain, Portugal, England, and Holland became the chief commercial nations of the world. England was ready to make the fullest use of her position on the borders of Western Europe to profit by the trade to America and laughed to scorn the claims of Spain and Portugal to monopolise the wealth of the Western World. The claims were based on the bull of Pope Alexander VI. in 1493, who assigned to Portugal all the newly discovered territories in Africa and Eastern Asia east of a line drawn from north to south 100 leagues west of the Azores and Cape de Verde Islands, and to Spain those in the New World west of this line.

Bull of Pope
Alexander VI

It was a period of commercial activity in other directions. Our first commercial treaty, "the Great Intercourse" with the Netherlands, was negotiated in 1496, and the Merchant Adventurers, the first of the incorporated companies chartered for trade, gained a royal charter in 1407, formally received the title of "the Fellowship of the Merchant Adventurers of England" in 1505, and were incorporated by Elizabeth in 1564.

Commercial
activity

Merchant
Adventurers

Other discoveries were made in the great world of external nature. Copernicus and Galileo revealed to mankind that the world is not the centre of the universe, but that it moves round the sun. As it was with the world of nature, so it was with the world of books. Greek scholars from Constantinople found refuge at the universities of Western Europe, and the Oxford Reformers—Colet, Erasmus and Sir Thomas More—opened up to Englishmen the treasures of the Greek and Latin literatures. From

Discoveries in
the world of
nature

4 DEVELOPMENT OF BRITISH EMPIRE

Renewed study
of the classics

the study of these literatures, the people gained in moral and mental enlightenment, and the uniformly high scale of literary excellence attained by the authors of the Elizabethan period is also to be attributed to the same cause

The Chartered
Companies

"The spacious times of great Elizabeth" were marked by the formation of the Chartered Companies, corporations of merchants which played a notable part in the development of trade. These companies were an expedient of the times for the extension of trade, and for the ensuring of its security by the acquisition of territory, without binding the Home Government to be responsible for all the proceedings of its subjects in distant lands

Muscovy
Company

The expedition of Sir Hugh Willoughby and Richard Chancellor in 1553 failed in its attempt to discover a north-eastern passage to Cathay (China) and India along the northern coast of Asia, which might serve as an alternative to the newly discovered Portuguese route round the Cape of Good Hope. In consequence of this expedition, however, the Muscovy Company was incorporated under Philip and Mary in 1553 for trade between England and Russia. In 1579 "the fellowship of Eastland Merchants" was formed for trade between England and Scandinavia, Lithuania, Poland, and Prussia, through the Sound. In 1581 Elizabeth entered into a treaty with the Sultan of Turkey, and granted the monopoly of the trade to Turkey for seven years to certain merchants, who were incorporated as the Levant Company in 1592. This Company for a considerable period defrayed all the cost of the English ambassador in Turkey and the English consuls or commercial repre-

Eastland
Merchants

Levant
Company

representatives in certain towns of the Turkish Empire. The Levant and East India Company spheres of commercial action were connected in the Nearer East, and the Governor of the Levant Company was the first Governor of the East India Company.

In the latter part of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, Englishmen developed an enthusiastic loyalty towards the Queen and a spirit of patriotism, which found vent in maritime enterprise and in challenging Spanish supremacy in America. Soon after the discovery of America, the Spaniards got possession of the gold mines of Mexico and of the silver mines of Peru, and established a very lucrative trade between their American possessions and Spain, from which they attempted forcibly to exclude all other Europeans but themselves. To this exclusion the English refused to submit, and the English "buccaneers"¹ forced their way into the "Spanish Main" (the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea), sacked and burnt the rich Spanish towns, and plundered the Spanish galleons which were bringing home to Spain the wealth of the New World.

Enterprise of
English sailors

The
Buccaneers

The most famous of these "buccaneers" were Sir John Hawkins and Sir Francis Drake. Hawkins gained wealth as a pioneer of the Slave Trade between Africa and the Spanish colonies in America. In 1573 Drake first saw the Pacific Ocean from the Isthmus of Darien. In 1577 he sailed through the Straits of Magellan, plundered the coasts of Chili and Peru, and sailed home across the Pacific after circumnavigating

Sir John
Hawkins

Sir Francis
Drake

¹ The word is derived from "buccan," a sort of hurdle made of sticks used to dry or smoke fish or flesh over a fire. Fish or flesh so prepared was a favourite food of the buccaneers.

the world In 1585 he sacked Vigo and the Spanish-American ports of Santiago (capital of the Cape de Verde Islands), San Domingo (capital of the island of Hispaniola), and Carthagena (the chief town on the Atlantic coast of Spanish South America) In 1587 he "singd the King of Spain's beard" by burning the Spanish Fleet in Cadiz harbour In 1588 the defeat of the Spanish Armada—a striking exhibition of the growing Sea Power of England—was largely the work of these "buccaneers"

Defeat of the
Spanish
Armada

In 1592 Sir Walter Raleigh penetrated the Isthmus of Darien In 1595-96 he made a voyage to Guiana, and sailed up the Orinoco in search of the fabled city of Manoa or El Dorado

Sir Walter
Raleigh

Other British seamen associated their names for ever with the map of North America in their efforts to discover the North-West Passage to India and the Far East The Hudson—the river on which New York is situated—and Hudson's Bay are named after Henry Hudson, Frobisher's Straits at the entrance of Hudson's Bay were named after Martin Frobisher, whose Arctic explorations (1576-78) were undertaken at the expense of the Company of Cathay, and Davis' Straits commemorate John Davis The scheme for the discovery of this new maritime highway to India received official recognition in 1612, when the "Company of the Merchants of London, Discoverers of the North-West Passage" was incorporated.

North West
passage to
India

The enterprise of English sailors received a temporary check from the cowardice of James I and his unwillingness to give offence to Spain, but the colonisation of Virginia was revived Sir Walter Raleigh discovered the country in 1584, and named it Virginia

Raleigh's
discovery of
Virginia



after Queen Elizabeth. In 1585 colonists were sent out under Sir Richard Grenville, and settled on Roanoke Island in Chesapeake Bay, but the enterprise failed, and the colonists were brought home by Sir Francis Drake in 1586. In 1606 the Virginia Company received a patent to colonise North America between the degrees of 34 and 45 north latitude. There were to be two companies and two colonies. The London or Virginia Company proper sent out Captain John Smith at the head of a fresh band of colonists, who occupied Jamestown on the James river in 1607.

The Plymouth Company was to occupy the more northern territories included in the patent, but the first real colonists in these regions were the Pilgrim Fathers. These were a band of religious Nonconformists, many of whom belonged to Scrooby in Nottinghamshire, who left England in 1608 to escape from the ecclesiastical tyranny of the English Church and retired to Leyden in Holland. From Leyden they sailed to North America in a small ship called the *Mayflower*, and landed at Plymouth on Cape Cod Bay in 1620, whence they spread and multiplied to become the founders of the New England States. Massachusetts, the chief of these States, received legal recognition by the grant of a royal charter to the Governor and Company of Massachusetts Bay in New England in 1629, and its capital, Boston, which was named after Boston in Lincolnshire, was founded in 1630.

The Pilgrim
Fathers

Colonisation of
Massachusetts,

The colony of Maryland, so-called after Charles the First's Queen, Henrietta Maria, and founded by Lord Baltimore in 1634, provided a refuge for the English

Maryland,

Roman Catholics, on whom the yoke of ecclesiastical tyranny pressed as severely as on the Protestant Nonconformists Charles the Second took great interest in the colonies and in the development of trade, he made a grant of the territory which is now the States of North and South Carolina to Anthony Ashley Cooper, Earl of Shaftesbury, and Charleston was founded in 1670. The same king made a grant of what is now the State of Pennsylvania to William Penn, the Quaker. The Quakers, who were unpopular in England owing to their doctrine of the unlawfulness of resistance to oppression, and who objected to conformity with the Established Church, settled in Pennsylvania in large numbers, and Philadelphia was founded in 1683.

Carolina,
Pennsylvania,
Georgia,
The State of Georgia was founded from a similar motive of philanthropy by General Oglethorpe, and was largely colonised by persons released from debtors' prisons in England.

New York
The great State of New York was originally founded by the Dutch, who gave it the name of the New Netherlands, its capital, at first called New Amsterdam, was founded on Manhattan Island in the Hudson river, 1626. It was conquered by the English in 1664, and received the name of New York after James, Duke of York, brother of Charles II, and it remained an English possession after the peace of Breda, 1667, by which the English surrendered Surinam in Guiana in return. New York was temporarily reconquered by the Dutch in 1673, but they gave it up permanently by the Peace of Westminster, 1674.

The Hudson's Bay territories were first colonised under the name of Rupert's Land under a charter from

Charles II gave to Prince Rupert, who was the first Governor of the company formed under the charter, in 1670. This charter constituted the company proprietors of a vast undefined tract on the north-west of Canada known vaguely as the North-Western Territories. From these territories the modern Canadian provinces of Manitoba, Alberta, and Saskatchewan have been formed.

The English colonies in North America were most of them founded during the seventeenth century, and in the same century the first English settlers took up their abode in the West Indies, which lie off the eastern coast of Central America and the northern coast of South America, and were used as a base of operations against the Spaniards. The unoccupied islands of the Bermudas were first visited by Sir George Somers on his way to Virginia in 1609, and they were permanently colonised from England in 1612. In 1623 St Kitts was occupied conjointly by the French and English, and from St Kitts other islands of the Leeward group—Nevis, Antigua, and Montserrat were colonised. Barbados, an unoccupied island, received English settlers in 1625. The Bahamas were occupied by emigrants from the Bermudas, 1647. Jamaica was conquered from Spain, 1655, by an expedition under Cromwell's Protectorate, which was originally directed against Hispaniola. Guiana had been colonised with some success after Raleigh's voyage of 1595-96, but, under the name of Surinam, it was surrendered to the Dutch by the Peace of Breda, 1667, instead of New York.

Colonisation of
the West Indies

Guiana ceded
to the Dutch

In 1562 Sir John Hawkins visited Sierra Leone, and finding that negroes were profitable merchandise, took

Trade with
Africa

the first cargo of slaves to Hispaniola. In 1588 the First African Company was incorporated for trading with the Senegal and Gambia rivers by royal charter. In 1618 the Company of Merchants of London trading with Africa was incorporated and founded Fort James on the Gambia, and Fort Cormantine and Cape Coast Castle on the Gold Coast. This company dealt chiefly in gold and ivory. Guineas, first coined in 1663, were made from gold which this company imported from the African Guinea Coast. In 1631 another African company came into being. In 1662 the Company of Royal Adventurers of England trading to Africa received a charter. This company contracted to supply slaves to the English West India Islands. The latest chartered company, which included Africa in its operations, was the "Company of Merchants trading to Africa" incorporated 1750 and abolished 1821. All the African companies except the first two in order dealt largely in slaves.

Guineas first
coined

The Assiento

By the Treaty of Utrecht, 1713, the Assiento, or right of supplying slaves to the Spanish colonies in America was assured to England, till the English Abolition of Slavery in 1807.

The extortions of the Dutch, and the price they tried to make the English pay for pepper, led to the determination of the merchants of London to enter into the Spice Trade for themselves, and to the formation of the East India Company in 1600.

Early history
of the East
India Company

The first voyage of the East India Company under James Lancaster was undertaken in 1601. It was directed to Sumatra, and factories at Bantam in Java

and at Acheen in Sumatra were founded in consequence. The second voyage was also directed to the Spice Islands. The third voyage in 1606 was made to India. The English had to encounter very bitter opposition from the Portuguese in their trade with India, and from the Dutch in their trade with the Spice Islands.

Portuguese
opposition to
English trade
with India

After their naval victory over the Portuguese at Swally, the port of Surat, the English were allowed to establish their first trading factory in India at Surat, 1612. This place commanded the trade with the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf. It was a collecting centre for the cotton fabrics of Broach and Baroda, the indigo of Sarkhej near Ahmadabad and Biana, and the pepper from Malabar. The bitterness between the English and the Portuguese was put an end to by a local agreement between the President of Surat and the Governor-General of Goa, which was confirmed by a formal treaty of friendship between the two countries in 1642, after Portugal had reclaimed her independence from Spain.

Pacification
between
England and
Portugal, 1642

The dispute for the Spice Trade between the English and the Dutch culminated in the Massacre of Amboyna, 1623, when an English factor and his staff were murdered by the Dutch. The English for a time gave up the Spice Trade and devoted themselves to commerce with the mainland of India. By the negotiations of Sir Thomas Roe, envoy of James I at the court of Jahangir, 1615-18, the English were allowed to establish factories at Broach, Goga, Cambay, Ahmadabad, Burhanpur, Ajmere, Agra, and Lahore on payment of a 3½ per cent export duty on all shipments.

Massacre of
Amboyna

Embassy of Sir
Thomas Roe to
the court of
Jahangir

Concessions
gained by Sir
Thomas Roe

In 1622 the English, in conjunction with Shah Abbas, Shah of Persia, expelled the Portuguese from Ormuz, and were allowed a factory at Gombroon (Bander Abbas), another factory in Persia was established at Bushire

Factories at
Bander Abbas

Bushire

Basra

In 1639 a factory was established at Basra in Turkey, by a deputation from Surat, to avoid the oppression which the English had to suffer in Persia at the instigation of the Dutch

Factories on the
east coast of
India

On the east coast of India the English built factories at Masulipatam and at Armagaon, forty miles north of the Dutch factory at Pulicat in 1628, and at Pipli near Puri in 1633.

Madras

In 1639 Francis Day, a factor at Armagaon, purchased the village of Chennakuppum, the original site of Madras, from Damarta Venkapatu Nayudu, Zemindar of Kalahasti, and obtained a sanad from the Raja of Chandragiri confirming the grant. On this site was built Fort St George, the first fort of the English in India. In 1640 the English were allowed to occupy Hughli in Bengal from which the Portuguese had been expelled by Shah Jahan in 1629, and branch factories were established at Patna (for saltpetre), Dacca (for muslins), Kasimbazar (for silks), and Murshidabad.

Hughli and its
branch
factories

In 1642 an English trading factory was opened at Balasore.

Balasore

Acquisition of
island of
St Helena

About the middle of the seventeenth century St Helena, an island in the Atlantic, was occupied as a station where the East India Company's ships, returning from India by the south-east trade-wind, after passing the Cape of Good Hope, might find fresh food and water.

In 1660 an English trading factory was opened at Cochin. On the 27th March, 1668, the island of Bombay, which was part of the dowry of Catharine of Braganza, Queen of Charles II, was made over to the East India Company in return for a yearly rent of £10. It became the headquarters of the East India Company in India, instead of Surat, from the 2nd May, 1687. In 1687, after a fight with the Moghal authorities, the English abandoned Hughli, and retired from Bengal on account of their quarrels with Shaista Khan, Subahdar of Bengal. About this time the East India Company attempted to wage war with the whole Moghal Empire. Sir John Child attacked the ships conveying pilgrims from Surat to Jeddah on their pilgrimage to Mecca, and Nicholson and Heath, with a squadron of ships, made a disastrous attack on Chittagong, which it was intended to seize and hold. The English, on their retreat from Hughli, tried to maintain themselves at Hiji at the mouth of the Hughli, and were besieged there by the Moghal troops. In 1690 Job Charnock, who was then the Company's Agent in Bengal, and his factors were allowed to return to Bengal, and occupied the village of Sutanuti, which was situated on the northern part of the present site of Calcutta. In consequence of fighting resulting from some local disputes, the English in 1696 were permitted to build a fort known as Fort William on the banks of the Hughli. In 1698 they received permission from Azim-us-Shan, Subahdar of Bengal, to occupy the villages of Sutanuti, Govindpur, and Kalikatta (an area of one and a half square miles, and now the site on which a great part of the present city of Calcutta is built) in perpetuity.

Events leading
up to the
foundation of
Calcutta

on payment of an annual rental of Rs 1200 In 1691 the site of Fort St David at Tegnapatam near Cuddalore was acquired from Ram Raja, the Mahratta sovereign who held Gingee

ort S David
sterlopers
A. the trade with India became more profitable, more persons tried to dispute the East India Company's claim to a monopoly of it Interlopers were persons not being members of the East India Company, or licensed by it, who claimed to trade with India at their pleasure The king was the greatest supporter of such persons, for he used to grant trading privileges contrary to the East India Company's charter in return for money payments In 1637 Charles I granted a license to Sir William Courten and others to trade with Goa, Malabar, and China The association was called the Assada Merchants, and formed a colony at St Augustine's Bay in Madagascar In 1650-51, at the recommendation of the Council of State, the East India Company, the Assada Merchants, and the Merchant Adventurers trading to the Indies were united In 1654 the Assada Merchants and the Merchant Adventurers petitioned for free trade, which was granted, but the East India trade was so disorganised by unlimited competition that Cromwell restored the East India Company's charter In 1694 the House of Commons voted that it is the right of all Englishmen to trade with the East Indies, unless forbidden by Parliament This resolution led to the formation of the New or English Company for trading to India, which entered into the most bitter rivalry and cut-throat competition with the Old or London Company Both companies realised that each was ruining the other, and eventually amalgamated in

1708, under Lord Godolphin's scheme, as the United Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies

The East India Company commenced operations purely as a body of traders, but they soon changed their policy. It was on account of the grant of Bombay and the charter of 1661, which authorised the East India Company to make peace or war with any prince or people, not being Christian, and to administer justice for themselves and their dependants, that Sir William Hunter wrote that "Charles II found the Company a trading body; he left it a nascent territorial power." In 1687 the directors, under the chairmanship of the masterful Sir Josiah Child, passed a resolution "The increase of a revenue is the object of our care as much as our trade, 'tis that must maintain our force when twenty accidents may interrupt our trade, 'tis that must make us a nation in India, without that we are but a great number of interlopers united by his Majesty's royal charter, fit only to trade where nobody of power thinks it their interest to prevent us." Their purpose was "to establish such a politie of civil and military power, and to create and secure such a large revenue as may lay the foundation of a large, well grounded, sure English dominion for all time to come."¹

Change of policy

The seventeenth century was a period of extension of trade and settlement, but the English Government treated settlement as of quite subordinate importance as compared with trade. It carefully regulated trade, but left English settlements in foreign countries to look after themselves. The comparative importance

General policy of the English Government

¹ Letter to Fort St George, 12th December, 1687, quoted in Sir C. P. Ilbert's 'Government of India,' p. 25, from Bruce's 'Annals.'

Mercantile
Fallacy

of the two subjects is seen in the title of the Board of Trade and Plantations (Colonies), which was created under William III in 1696, of which John Locke was secretary. The regulation of trade was based on what is called the Mercantile Fallacy, that a country's wealth is to be estimated by the stock of the precious metals it possesses, in pursuance of this policy, exports were encouraged and imports discouraged, as, if the imports of a country were not balanced by its exports, money had to be exported to pay for them. As India sold to England a greater value of commodities than she bought from England, the East India Company had to export the precious metals to India to pay for the balance. Their trade was attacked as injurious to England by thus lessening her stock of the precious metals, but the really beneficial character of the trade was explained in Thomas Mun's treatise entitled 'England's Treasure in Foreign Trade,' published 1664.

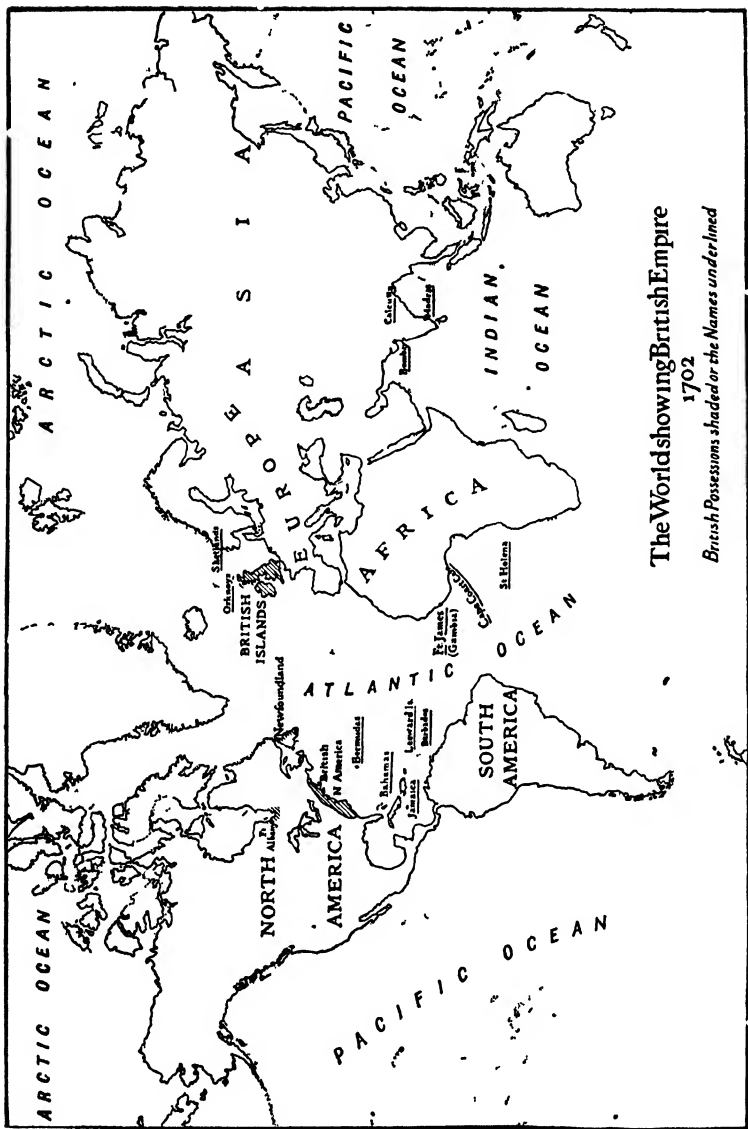
The colonies were allowed to govern themselves, but the mother-country enforced a jealous monopoly of their foreign trade. This monopoly was secured by the Navigation Acts. There had been isolated Acts of Parliament before 1651, the object of which was to reserve the trade of England and her colonies for English ships, but it was not till the Act of 1651 that this became a settled principle of our policy continuously enforced.

Restrictions on
Colonial Trade
imposed by the
Navigation Acts

The Navigation Act passed by the Long Parliament in 1651 was aimed at the carrying trade of the Dutch, and forbade the importation of any goods into England, except in English ships or the ships of the country from which the goods originated. In 1660,

it was provided that all exports from the colonies as well as imports into the colonies were only to be carried in English ships. Colonial produce could only be exported to England and her dependencies. In 1663, the colonies were forbidden to receive any goods whatever in foreign vessels. The American colonies had to send all their produce, except rice, sugar, and skins, to England alone. Their grain, salt meat, fish, and rum had to be exported in English ships. They could raise the raw materials of silk and linen and manufacture them for their own use, but not for foreign markets. Though furs and wool abounded, they could not export hats, then chiefly made of beaver skins, but had to export the raw materials to England. They were not allowed to manufacture iron or steel, but had to import all they wanted from England.

On the other hand, only American tobacco could be sold in England, and American naval stores, such as timber, tar, and hemp received large bounties on importation into England, and had to pay much lighter import duties than similar goods from other countries.



CHAPTER II

THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY EMPIRE EXTENDED BY WAR

THE Treaty of Utrecht, 1713, which put an end to the War of the Spanish Succession, 1701-13, gave to England the undisputed possession of Newfoundland, the Acadian peninsula now called Nova Scotia, and Hudson's Bay in exclusive sovereignty. The French gave up their share in the West Indian island of St Kitts. In Europe England seized and held Gibraltar, a fortress and harbour on the Straits of Gibraltar, which is of no use for settlement and has no particular trade of its own, but which, like Aden, commands an important trade-route, and is of great benefit in protecting the sea-borne trade of England. England also gained possession, till 1783, of Minorca, one of the Balearic Islands off the east coast of Spain, with an excellent harbour, Port Mahon. No other acquisition was made in Europe till 1878, when it was arranged that Cyprus should be occupied and administered by Great Britain in return for a promise of assistance in defending Turkey in Asia against Russia. From the beginning of the present war, Turkey's rights in Cyprus lapsed, and Great Britain holds the island in full sovereignty.

Gains of the
Empire after
the Peace of
Utrecht

Capture of
Gibraltar

Cyprus occupied
by Great
Britain

The Assiento, or monopoly of supplying slaves to the Spanish American colonies, and the right of sending one ship a year to trade with these colonies, were other concessions made to England, which acquired a leading position in the contest for colonial and commercial supremacy in consequence of the part she played in this war

Modifications of
the Navigation
Laws

Sir Robert Walpole, Prime Minister, saw the folly of forbidding the colonies to trade direct with other countries, and passed an Act of Parliament in 1730 modifying the provisions of the Navigation Acts, and allowing Georgia and the Carolinas to export rice to foreign countries, provided it was carried in British ships. In 1740 a similar concession was allowed to the West Indies for the export of sugar. Walpole realised that the more prosperous the colonies were the better markets they would furnish for the sale of English goods.

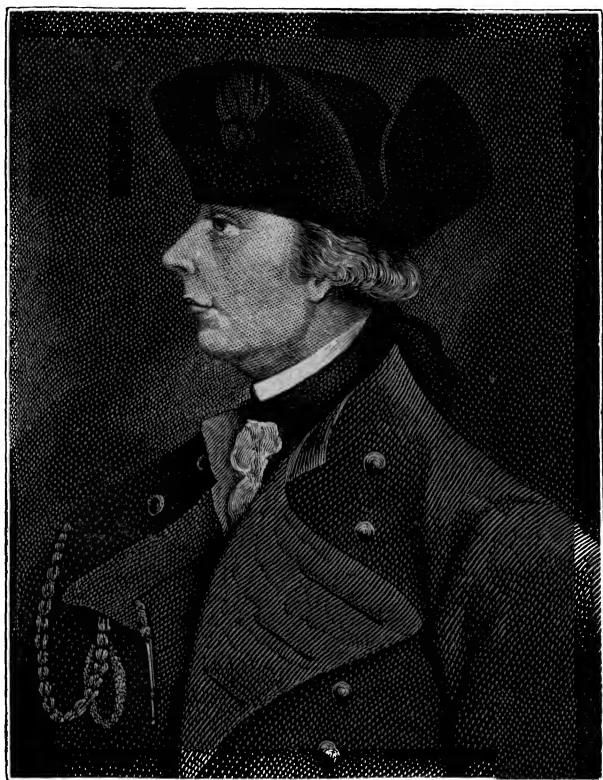
Gains of the
Seven Years
War

By the Seven Years' War, 1756-63, and the Peace of Paris, 1763, England acquired Canada, the island of Cape Breton with the fortress of Louisbourg, the West Indian islands of Grenada, St Vincent, St Lucia, Dominica, and Tobago, with the Senegal river in Africa.

War of
American
Colonies

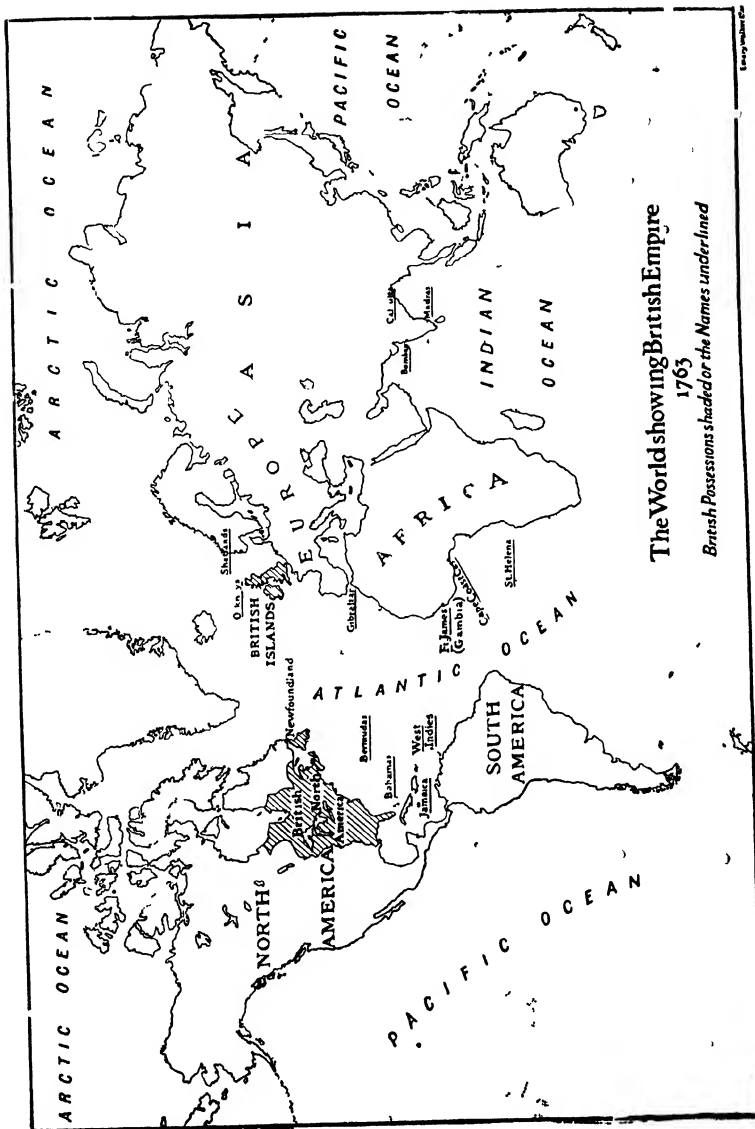
The War of American Independence, 1774-83, was ended by the Peace of Versailles, 1783. It was caused by the claim of the English Parliament to tax the colonists without their consent, and also to regulate their commerce in the exclusive interests of the mother-country, either the one or the other claim might have been tolerated, but not both.

The Stamp Act was an attempt to levy an excise or inland duty, which was an infringement of the



WOIFF

Picture by Schaak, in the National Portrait Gallery



Peace of
Versailles 1783

Recognition of
the independence of the
thirteen
American
Colonies

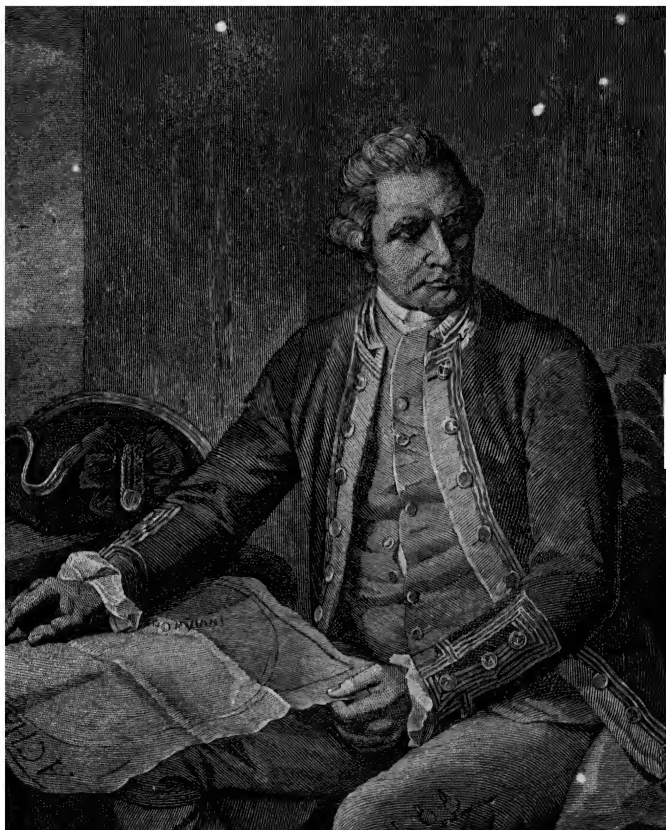
rights of the local legislatures. Customs, or duties levied at the port of entrance into the colony, were considered legally imposed by the English Parliament as part of its general function of regulating the commerce of the Empire. The Peace of Versailles marks a period of retrogression in the history of the Empire, as the independence of the thirteen American Colonies was recognised. England also was forced to restore to France Tobago and St. Lucia in the West Indies and the Senegal river in Africa. Spain recovered Minorca and Florida.

Australia
First
beginning of
settlements

It is not a little remarkable that within five years of losing America the first English settlement was planted in Australia, a continent the possession of which was destined to largely compensate us for the loss of the thirteen Colonies.

The west coast of Australia was first visited by William Dampier in 1688, and the north-west coast in 1690. Captain James Cook, in his first voyage in the *Endeavour*, explored the coasts of New Zealand and the eastern coast of Australia, or New Holland as it was then called, and in 1770 he landed in a bay called Botany Bay in honour of Sir Joseph Banks the botanist, who accompanied him.

Cook afterwards passed up the whole eastern coast of Australia, and passing through Torres Straits arrived at Batavia in Java. In 1773 he was the first man to cross the Antarctic circle. In 1776 he discovered the Sandwich Islands, and visited Nootka Sound in Vancouver Island, on the Pacific coast of North America, in 1778. He was murdered by the natives at Hawaii, 1779. In 1788 Captain Philip with a shipload of transported convicts landed at Botany



CAPTAIN COOK

From an engraving by Sherwin, after a picture by N. Dance

Bay, and transferred the settlement to Port Jackson which was the beginning of the city of Sydney. Van Diemen's Land or Tasmania, another convict settlement, was occupied in 1803.

In 1791 the province of Quebec along the line of the St. Lawrence was divided into two provinces—Canada Quebec Act, 1791 Lower and Upper Canada.

Lower Canada towards the east was inhabited mainly by the original French settlers, though in the eastern townships, towards the United States frontier, a large majority of the population was of English descent. Upper Canada towards the west, including the province now called Ontario, was largely peopled by loyalist refugees from the American revolted colonies, who also took refuge in the maritime province of New Brunswick. Each of these provinces was given a nominated Legislative Council and an Elective House of Assembly, but the Executive was responsible to the home government in London.

The colony of Sierra Leone on the west coast of Africa, the capital of which was Freetown, was founded in 1787, and was intended to be a settlement for liberated slaves. In 1791 a company was incorporated by Act of Parliament, which had for its object the introduction of civilisation into Africa, and Sierra Leone was the centre of its operations. Sierra Leone

The colony of Honduras, in the south-eastern corner of the peninsula of Yucatan in North America, may be said to date from 1798, when the woodcutters, who were cutting logwood for use as a dye, and mahogany for timber, in the forests of the colony, beat off the Spanish Fleet, which had been sent to expel British Honduras.

them from what was then claimed as a Spanish possession.

Management of
the Colonies

The management of the English Colonies was in 1768 transferred from the Board of Trade and Plantations to a third Secretary of State, whose duties embraced the American or Colonial Department. The office of the third Secretary of State was abolished under Burke's Economic Reform Act, 1782. In 1801 a Secretary of State for War and the Colonies was appointed, and these functions were not assigned to separate Secretaries of State till the Crimean War in 1854.

India in the
eighteenth
century

Extension of
Calcutta and
Madras

The first increase of territory outside Calcutta obtained by the English was the grant of the thirty-eight towns near Calcutta on the south, which gave them complete command of the Hughli. This concession was obtained from the Emperor Farukh Siyar as the result of the Surman Mission from Calcutta to Delhi, 1715-17. The same mission obtained the emperor's permission for the English to occupy certain villages in the neighbourhood of Madras.

Building of new
Fort William

When Mir Jafar became Nawab of Bengal, he ceded to the East India Company all the land of Calcutta within the Mahratta Ditch and 600 yards beyond it, with the zemindari rights over the district to the south of Calcutta between the Salt Lakes and the Hughli as far as Culpee. The building of the new Fort William was commenced with part of the one crore and seventy lacs of rupees paid as compensation for the damages done to Calcutta by Suraj-ud-daula's siege by the Nawab Mir Jafar.

The French and English first began to contend for supremacy in India in the War of the Austrian

Succession, 1744-48, in which the French policy was, ^{Wars in India between the French and English} very skilfully directed by Joseph Francis Dupleix, Governor of Pondicherry. Pondicherry was the principal settlement of the French in India, and they purchased its site from the Sultan of Bijapur in 1674. They occupied Chandernagore on the Hugli with the permission of the Emperor Aurangzeb in 1683. In the War of the Austrian Succession, the French under Labouidonnais captured Madras, but had to restore it to the English by the Peace of Aix la Chapelle in return for Cape Breton Island and the fortress of Louisbourg in North America.

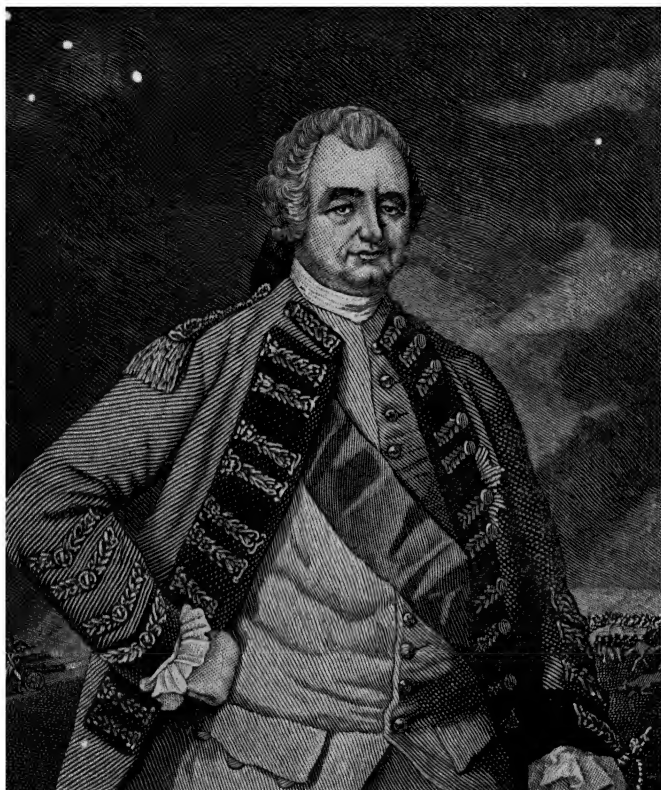
France and England again became involved in war as allies of the contending parties in the disputed succession to the Nizam of the Deccan Chin Kilich Khan Asaf Jah, who died in 1748, and to the subordinate position of Nawab of the Carnatic. In 1751 Chand Sahib, whose cause the French championed for the position of Nawab of the Carnatic, besieged his rival Mahomed Ali, who was supported by the English, in Trichinopoly. Robert Clive caused a diversion by capturing and successfully standing a siege in Arcot, Chand Sahib's capital. In 1752 Clive defeated the French at Kaveripak, and forced them to surrender at the Srirangam Pagoda on the Kaveri river. Dupleix was recalled owing to the impending bankruptcy of the French East India Company. Peace was effected by a compromise negotiated with Godeheu, successor of Dupleix, by which both sides recognised the French nominee as Nizam, and the English nominee as Nawab of the Carnatic.

At the commencement of the Seven Years' War, ^{The Seven Years' War in India} the Comte de Lally, an Irish refugee in French service,

was appointed Governor of Pondicherry. He besieged Madras from December 1758 to the middle of February 1759, but had to raise the siege. He then committed the fatal mistake of recalling the Marquis de Bussy from the court of the Nizam. Bussy was the one man qualified by his talents to carry on the policy of Duplex in dealing with the natives of India, and had he remained in Hyderabad he might have induced the Nizam to become a most useful ally of the French. He failed to defend the Northern Sirkars (the districts of Guntur, Kistna, Ganjam, Vizagapatam, and Godavery) against the English under Colonel Forde in 1759, and was defeated and taken prisoner by Sir Eyre Coote at Wandewash, 1760. Sir Eyre Coote followed up this victory by the siege and capture of Pondicherry, 16th January, 1761. The capture of the stronghold of Gingi, says Orme, "terminated the long hostilities between the two rival European powers in the Coromandel, and left not a single ensign of the French nation avowed by the authority of its government in any part of India." At the Peace of Paris, 1763, and at that of Versailles, 1783, the English restored Pondicherry and Chandernagore, but at the latter peace they retained Negapatam, which they conquered in 1781.

Territorial
expansion in
Bengal

In 1760, when the English made Mir Kasim Nawab of Bengal in place of his father-in-law Mir Jafar, Mir Jafar was compelled to cede the districts of Burdwan, Midnapur, and Chittagong to the East India Company. The rest of Bengal is generally supposed to have fallen into English hands, when Clive, after winning the Battle of Plassey, June 23, 1757, negotiated the



ROBERT CLIVE.

From an engraving by Bartolozzi, after a picture by N. Dance

Treaty of Allahabad, 1765 By this treaty Shah Alam gave the Dewani, or right of collecting the revenue in Bengal, Behar, and Orissa By Orissa, only Midnapur is meant, as the Mahrattas were in possession of Orissa proper, and did not cede it to the English till 1803 By the same treaty Shah Alam also made over to the English the Northern Sirkars, from which Colonel Forde had expelled the French in 1759

Treaty of
Allahabad

Giant of the
Dewani of
Bengal, Behar,
and Orissa

By the grant of the Dewani, the so-called " Double Government " of Bengal was set up, by which the English collected the revenue and assumed the military defence of the country, and gave the Nawab 56 lacs of rupees to carry on the civil government of the country and administer justice By this system, the English hoped to conceal from the other European traders in Bengal their assumption of all real power, under the subterfuge of submission to the superior authority of the Nawab The transfer of all real power to the English, and the abandonment of the attempt to shelter themselves behind the Nawab as a figurehead, was notified in the Despatch to Calcutta of the Directors of the East India Company of the 28th August, 1781, in which they announced their intention " to stand forth as Dewan, and to take upon themselves, by the agency of their own servants, the entire care and administration of the revenues " of Bengal In pursuance of this policy, the Treasury, and with it the capital of Bengal, was transferred from Murshidabad to Calcutta

" Double
Government " of Bengal

Pitt's India Bill, 1784, took the government out of the hands of the Directors and vested the supreme control of the civil, military, and revenue affairs of

Board of
Control

the East India Company's Indian territories in a Board of six Privy Councillors, one of whom was to be a Secretary of State acting as President

Territorial
expansion of
Madras

The first accession of territory gained outside Madras was the cession of the neighbouring district of Chingleput, which was made by the Nawab of the Carnatic in 1765, but it was not taken under the direct administration of the English till 1780.

Expansion of
Bombay

By the first Mahratta War, 1774-82, which was terminated by the Treaty of Salbai, 1782, the Bombay Presidency gained its first accession of territory in the islands of Salsette and Elephanta. The English had conquered Bassein and Gujrat in this war, but restored them to the Mahrattas.

Mysore War,
1778-84

The war with Mysore, 1778-84, in which the French sent troops to the assistance of Hyder Ali, Sultan of Mysore, was terminated by the Treaty of Mangalore, which restored the state of things prevailing before the war.

Mysore War,
1791-92

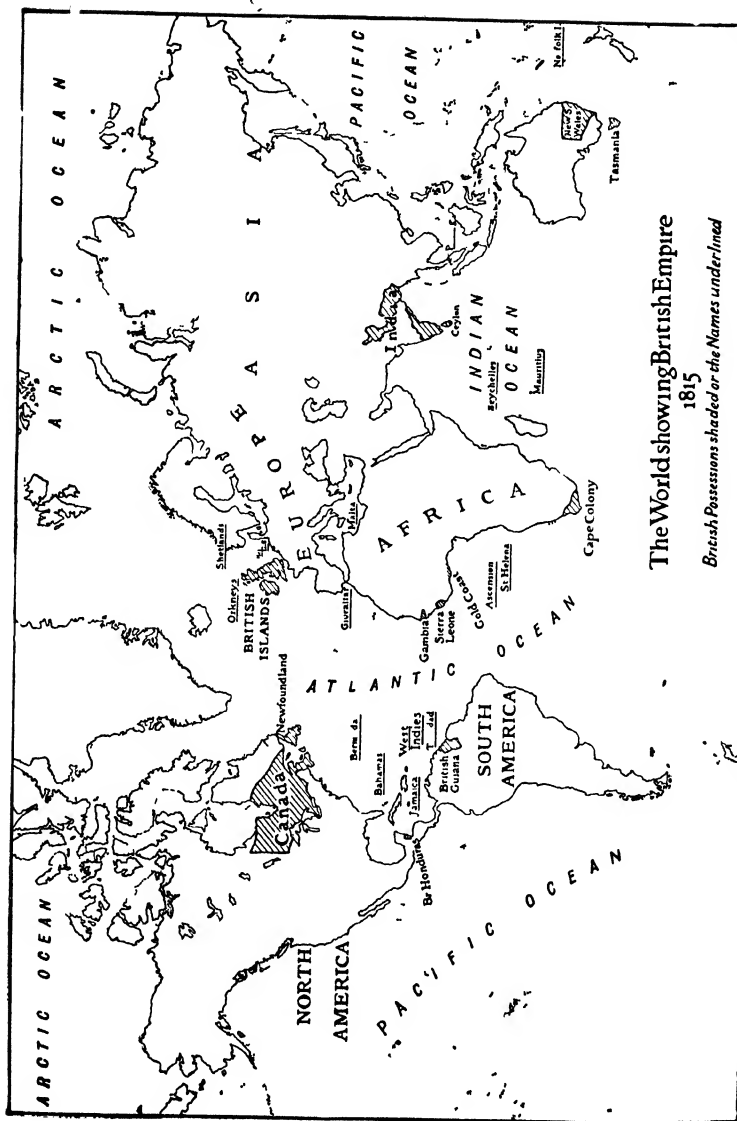
After the war with Mysore, 1791-92, the English annexed the districts of Salem, Madura, and Malabar, which were added to the Madras Presidency. After the war with Mysore, 1799, in which Seringapatam, the capital of Tipu, Sultan of Mysore, was besieged and taken, the English annexed the districts of Canara, Coimbatore, the Nilgiri Hills, and the Wynaad. The present territories of Mysore were made over to Krishnaraja, a scion of the old Yadav dynasty of Mysore which had been dethroned by Hyder Ali.

War with
Mysore, 1799

Cession of
Tanjore and
Surat

In 1799, the Raja of Tanjore and the Nawab of Surat resigned their territories to the English Government, and were pensioned.

In 1786, in order to suppress piracy, the East India Company purchased the island of Penang from the Malay Sultan of Kedah, and followed this up by the purchase from the same Sultan of the adjoining mainland of the Malay Peninsula, which was known as Province Wellesley, in 1800



CHAPTER III

THE EMPIRE IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY AND AFTER

ENGLAND gained from France St Lucia in the West Indies, and the islands of Mauritius and the Seychelles in the Indian Ocean. Malta, which was ceded to England by the Treaty of Paris, 1814, had been previously blockaded by the English Fleet when in the possession of the French, 1798-1800. The refusal of England to surrender Malta to the Knights of St John, as had been agreed by the Peace of Amiens, 1802, till France ceased to meddle with foreign nations, was the principal cause of the breach of the Peace of Amiens. From Spain England gained the West Indian island of Trinidad, and from Denmark Heligoland, which was surrendered to Germany, 1890. From Holland England gained Ceylon, British Guiana, and the Cape of Good Hope. British Guiana only comes into importance in later history, when its boundary disputes with Venezuela and Brazil were settled in the early part of the twentieth century. The Cape was taken by England and restored to the Dutch by the Peace of Amiens, it was captured again by England in 1806, and was finally ceded to England by the Second Peace of Paris, 1815.

The Napoleonic Wars

By treaty with Austria, November 1815, to which Ionian Islands,

the other powers assented, England took over the "immediate and exclusive protection" of the Ionian Islands, which were ceded to Greece in 1864

Falkland
Islands

British sovereignty over the Falkland Islands off the south-east coast of South America, which was disputed by Spain, and, after the revolt of the Spanish American colonies, by the Argentine Republic, was finally proclaimed in 1832

The Monroe
Doctrine

The United
States
proclaims
"Hands off"
to Europe from
North and
South
America

In 1823 President Monroe published his message to Congress, in which he declared that the United States would regard the attempt of any European power "to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere, as dangerous to our peace and safety". By this announcement, all the European powers were warned not to make any further attempt to extend their possessions in North or South America. The United States has twice taken action upon the Monroe Doctrine. When the Emperor Napoleon III of France interfered in Mexico to set up the Austrian Archduke Maximilian as Emperor, the United States had their hands full with the War of the Secession, but immediately that war was over, the Emperor was told that the United States Government regarded his interference as an unfriendly act, and he withdrew his troops from Mexico in consequence. President Cleveland also made use of this doctrine in his claim to interfere between England and Venezuela, in the boundary dispute between Venezuela and the colony of British Guiana.

It will be convenient to begin our survey of the development of the century with the history of the Self-Governing Dominions, and then go on to the less important colonies

The consequence of the Quebec Bill of 1791, which Canada broke up Canada into the Lower with a mainly French, and the Upper Province with a mainly English population, and gave representative institutions to each, was bitter racial jealousy, which culmina'ed in a rebellion against the English Government under a French-Canadian named Papineau, 1837 Lord Durham was sent out to Canada by the British Government to report on the situation, and his report Lord Durham's Report on Canada was published, January 1839 Lord Durham belonged to the school of politicians who held that the best security for an unbroken union between the mother-country and her colonies lay in the fullest extension of their political liberty He argued that "under wise and free institutions, a connection secured by the link of kindred origin and mutual benefits may continue to bind to the British Empire the ample territories of its North American provinces, and the large and flourishing population by which they will assuredly be filled "

Richard Cobden, the apostle of Free Trade, on the other hand, and his followers were champions of the Laissez Faire or Natural Liberty policy, they held that all restrictions, especially those on trade, should be removed, and that the colonies should be free to go their own way, and separate from the mother-country or not as they pleased According to them, separation was bound to come and might be a blessing, as the defence of the colonies entailed a heavy expense upon England They were called the "Cut the painter" school, the painter being the rope which ties Laissez Faire or 'Cut the painter' politicians a boat to its anchor

That Lord Durham's policy has been justified by

Constitution of
the Dominion
of Canada

its results is proved by the loyalty of the colonies to the mother-country in the Boer and present wars. Lord Durham's advice was followed by the British Government, Upper and Lower Canada were reunited, 1840, and in 1848 responsible government was granted to Canada and the Maritime Provinces (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward's Island, and Newfoundland). In 1867 the British North American Act passed by the Imperial Parliament enacted that "the provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick shall form and be one Dominion under the name of Canada." The province of Canada was again severed into two divisions, Ontario and Quebec, and power was taken to admit other colonies into the Dominion.

British
Columbia

Vancouver
Island

The colony of British Columbia is separated from the rest of Canada by the Rocky Mountains, and developed independently of it. In 1778 Captain Cook visited Nootka Sound in Vancouver Island. In 1788 the English trading settlement at Nootka Sound nearly brought about a war with Spain. In 1792-93 Captain Vancouver explored the shores and bays of the island and mainland opposite to it, and gave his name to the island and port. The monopoly of the fur trade enjoyed by the Hudson's Bay Company was challenged by the North-West Company formed in 1783-84, and made up of Canadian merchants.

Alexander Mackenzie of the North-West Company visited British Columbia from Canada in 1793, and when the two Fur Companies amalgamated in 1821, the Hudson's Bay Company became active in British Columbia, and established their chief factory at Fort Vancouver on the Columbia river.

The Anglo-American treaty of Washington, 1846, recognised the 49th parallel of latitude as the boundary between United States and English territory, as far as the middle of the channel between Vancouver Island and the mainland. Vancouver Island was then recognised as English territory, and made over to the Hudson's Bay Company, who constituted the town of Victoria on the island their seat of government.

Gold was afterwards discovered on the Fraser river, and the population was increased by the immigrants attracted to the gold diggings, so in 1866 Vancouver Island and the adjacent mainland of British Columbia were united in a single colony. This colony was given self-government and entered the Dominion of Canada in 1871, though the Canadian Pacific Railway, which was promised as an inducement to the colony to enter the Dominion, was not completed till 1875.

In 1869 the territorial rights of the Hudson's Bay Company were bought by the Canadian Government for £300,000, and the North-Western territory, which was formerly under Hudson's Bay Company government, joined the Canadian Dominion. The North-Western territory which included the Red River settlement around Fort Garry, the site of the modern city of Winnipeg, where the Red River flowing from the south unites with the Assiniboine flowing from the west, was inhabited by a mixed population of half-breed fur trappers and Scotch colonists whose forefathers had been settled upon the land by Lord Selkirk, 1811-17. These people protested against their land being taken over without their consent, and rebelled under the leadership of Louis Riel, a French-

Red River
Rebellion

Canadian, 1869 The rebellion was put down by Colonel (afterwards Lord) Wolseley, 1870 A second rebellion broke out in 1885, when Riel was hanged

Provinces of
the Dominion
of Canada
carved out of
the North-
Western
Territory

The provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, and the territory of Yukon, which was given a separate existence in 1898, after the discovery of the Klondyke gold fields, have been carved out of the great North-Western territory

Prince
Edward's
Island

Prince Edward's Island joined the Dominion of Canada in 1873, and Newfoundland is the only one of the North American colonies which has hitherto held aloof

Commercial
Reciprocity
with the
United States

The most important questions that have agitated the Dominion of late years were the settlement of the Alaskan Boundary, 1903, and the proposal for Commercial Reciprocity in duties and other points with the United States, which was brought forward by Sir Wilfred Laurier. It was feared that commercial would infallibly lead to political union, and the policy was decisively rejected at a Dominion General Election in 1911, and Sir Wilfred Laurier had to make way for Sir Robert Borden. The Laurier ministry had granted to imports from the mother-country preference as regards the duties payable, but Free Trade principles prevented the mother-country from reciprocating the concession, and the Laurier government then turned to the United States

Australia

Van Diemen's
Land

Tasmania.

Albany

In 1825 Van Diemen's Land ceased to be a dependency of New South Wales, and was recognised as an independent colony. It ceased to be a convict settlement in 1852. It took the name of Tasmania from 1853, and was granted responsible government in 1856. Convicts were sent to Albany on King

George's Sound in West Australia, 1824-26 In 1829, Swan River, also in West Australia and originally a free colony, was occupied as a convict settlement Moreton Bay became a convict settlement about the same time as Albany, and the grazing district of Darling Downs was first made use of to pasture sheep about 1830 The foundations of Brisbane and Queensland were thus laid

South Australia was colonised, 1836, and its capital, Adelaide, was called after the queen of William IV It was a free colony intended to carry into practical execution the ideas on land settlement proposed by Edward Gibbon Wakefield and the South Australian Company

Port Philip, the harbour of Melbourne, was discovered early in the nineteenth century, and, like Queensland and the Northern Territory, Victoria at first formed part of New South Wales It was formed into a separate colony, and given representative institutions in the form of a Legislative Council and a House of Assembly, which latter body was elected by the £10 householders and £100 freeholders at the same time as its parent colony, New South Wales, in 1851 Similar privileges were given to South Australia and Tasmania in 1856 Queensland was made a separate colony from New South Wales, and given responsible government in 1859 West Australia was the last of the Australian colonies to enjoy responsible government, which it did not obtain till 1890

The Commonwealth of Australia was proclaimed at Sydney on January 1st, 1901, after the Imperial Parliament had passed an Act constituting the Commonwealth The government was to consist of

Northern
territory of
Australia

Papua or
New Guinea

New Zealand

Treaty of
Waitangi

a Governor-General appointed by the Crown, with a Federal Senate and a Federal House of Representatives and a Federal Ministry chosen from the party which enjoys a majority in the House of Representatives. Each State returns the same number of Senators irrespective of population, and votes for them as one electorate. The Commonwealth Government administers the Northern Territory of Australia, which it took over from South Australia, 1907, and which was originally part of New South Wales, and the territory of Papua (British New Guinea), taken over in 1901. It embraces the south-eastern part of the island, and is bounded by German possessions on the north and the Dutch on the west. Three Australian colonies recommended the annexation of the island in 1875, and part of it was actually annexed by Queensland in 1883. The Home Government repudiated the action of Queensland, but itself annexed New Guinea, 1884. Whilst the annexation was under discussion, the Germans forestalled British action by themselves annexing the northern part of the island.¹

In 1839 Sir George Gipps, Governor of New South Wales, in order to anticipate French action, proclaimed the annexation of New Zealand. In 1840 his representative, Captain Hobson, concluded the Treaty of Waitangi with the Maori tribes, 1840, by which they ceded the sovereignty of the islands to Great Britain, and the colony was officially established in the same year.

There have been wars with the Maoris, 1844-48 and 1860-71, but justice and good government under Sir

¹ The German possessions in New Guinea were conquered during the present war by a British expedition sent from Australia.

George Grey have induced the Maoris to live in friendship with the English, and Maori members now take their share in the deliberations of the New Zealand Parliament. Responsible government was granted in 1852, and the colony received the title of a Dominion in 1907.

Dominion of
New Zealand

When the Cape of Good Hope finally became British in 1806, a population of about 26,000 Boers of mixed Dutch and French Protestant descent became British subjects, and their treatment of the native Hottentots and Kaffirs soon became a bone of contention between them and the government, whose claim to interfere between them and their native servants, the Boers bitterly resented. They conspired against the English Government, and five Boer farmers were hanged for treason at Slachter's Nek, 1815.

South Africa

In 1833 the ordinary constitution of a Crown Colony (a Legislative Council with unofficial members nominated by the Governor, and an elective House of Assembly) was granted to Cape Colony. In 1853 the House of Assembly became fully representative by a vote being given to coloured as well as white men. In 1872 responsible government followed. In 1834 the Kaffirs invaded the colony, and the Governor, Sir Benjamin D'Urban, after whom the port of D'Urban in Natal is named, moved the eastern frontier of the colony further east from the Keiskamma to the Kei river, and named the intervening territory Province Adelaide. This measure was disallowed by the Colonial Secretary, Lord Glenelg, on purely philanthropic grounds, and on the plea that the Kaffirs had been unjustly treated. This decision was unfortunate, as it originated the idea that any decision of the

Cape Colony
granted a
constitution

government on the spot was capable of being rescinded if sufficient pressure was applied in England. It proved a precedent which was too often acted on. In 1834 Natal first began to be colonised, D'Urban and Pietermaritzburg were founded, but the Home Government, in their anxiety not to extend their responsibilities, refused to recognise the colony.

Great Trek of
the Boers

The relations of the Boers with the English government of the Cape became so strained, that they determined to remove themselves from its jurisdiction, and piling their families and household goods upon ox-waggons, and driving their cattle and flocks before them, they "trekked" into Natal, the Orange River State, and the Transvaal. On arrival in Natal, they began a bitter feud with the Zulus, who massacred the incoming immigrants at Weenen. The Zulus under their king, Dingaan, were defeated by the Boers at the Blood River. The English Government still considered the Boers as subject to its jurisdiction, so in order to interpose between the Boers and the Zulus, they recognised Natal as a colony, 1843. The Boers then "trekked" across the Drakensberg Mountains into the Orange Free State between the Orange and Vaal rivers, and the Transvaal between the Vaal and Limpopo rivers, but Sir Harry Smith, Governor of Cape Colony in 1848, proclaimed the Orange River Sovereignty between the Orange and Vaal rivers, and a fort was erected at Bloemfontein. This step met with armed resistance on the part of the Boers. From 1847 to 1853 was a period of continuous Kaffir war, complicated by war with the Basutos, 1851-52, so the Home Government, again shirking responsibility,

Natal
recognised as
a Colony

concluded the Sand River Convention, 1852, by which the independence of the emigrants beyond the Vaal, who eventually founded the Transvaal Republic, was recognised, and the Convention of Bloemfontein, 1854, by which the Orange Free State was acknowledged as independent. This was a second instance in which the Home Government rescinded the action of their representative on the spot. It appears to have been their policy that Africa south of the Orange river and east of the Drakensberg Mountains should be English, but the plains of the interior should be given over to the Dutch. Lord Grey, Colonial Secretary of the time, carried the policy of "scuttle" further than this, and wrote that "beyond the very limited extent of territory required for the security of the Cape of Good Hope as a naval station, the British Crown and nation have no interest whatever in maintaining any territorial dominion in Africa." However the British Government desired to limit its responsibilities, the influence of the missionaries and the desire to prevent ill-treatment of the natives, and the increase of population consequent on the discovery of minerals and precious stones and metals, led to constant extension of its territories. The first trouble with the Dutch Republics arose over the seizure by the Free State Boers of the fertile Caledon river valley from the Basutos. What was left of the Basuto territory was then annexed to the British Empire, 1868.

Vacillating
South African
Policy of the
British
Government

Policy of
"Scuttle"

Basutoland
annexed

In 1871 the discovery of diamonds at Kimberley led to the annexation of the adjoining territory called Griqualand West from being inhabited by the Griquas, a race of Kaffir half-breeds. The Orange River Free

Annexation of
Griqualand
West

State claimed Griqualand West, but its rights were purchased for £90,000

Annexation of
the Transvaal

Zulu War

Annexation of
the Transvaal,
and promise of
self government

Majuba Hill
Annexation of
the Transvaal
rescinded

Convention of
Pretoria

Convention of
London

In 1877 the Transvaal Republic was in a helpless, anarchic, and bankrupt condition, and was threatened by Cetewayo and his Zulus. It was annexed to the British Empire. War with the Zulus followed, and they were defeated at Ulundi. Zululand with Amatongaland was annexed in 1887, and incorporated with Natal, which was given responsible government in 1897. When the Transvaal was annexed by Sir Theophilus Shepstone and Colonel Sir Owen Lanyon, it was promised that it should remain a separate government with its own laws and legislature, and that it should enjoy "the fullest legislative privileges compatible with the circumstances of the country and the intelligence of the people." The Boers had been relieved of their dread of the Zulus, and the promise of self-government had not been kept, so they revolted against British rule, and on the 27th of February, 1881, defeated Sir Pomeroy Colley at Majuba Hill. Thereupon Mr Gladstone came to terms with the Boers, revoked the annexation, and by the Pretoria Convention, 1881, allowed the Boers to govern themselves, subject to the reservation of British suzerainty. In 1884 the Convention of London was agreed to, the British suzerainty was greatly modified, and the Boers were led to think it was a mere form. The only restriction on its independence, under which the Boer South African Republic laboured, was the undisputed claim of England to control its foreign relations. Meanwhile the Transvaal had been growing rich owing to the discoveries of gold in the Witwatersrand, a district near Johannesburg, and at Barberton, and

great numbers of Uitlanders (outlanders or foreigners) began to pour into the country. They were denied all rights of citizenship, although they were made to bear the greater burden of taxation. This was the original cause of the hostility between the Boers and the Uitlanders. This reached its climax in 1895 when some of the leading Uitlanders conspired to upset the Boer Government and set up a separate republic at Johannesburg. It was arranged that Dr Jameson, Administrator of Mashonaland and one of the officials of the Chartered Company of South Africa, should march from Rhodesia to Johannesburg to assist them. Mr Cecil Rhodes, Prime Minister of Cape Colony and the head of the South African Company, had some share in the intrigue. President Kruger received early information and intercepted the Jameson Raiders, who surrendered. Though Dr Jameson and his officers were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, after trial in England, and Mr Cecil Rhodes was discredited, the Boers lost all confidence in the British Government, and, believing that it was bent upon overthrowing their republic, began to treat the Uitlanders more oppressively than ever. Mr Joseph Chamberlain, who was Colonial Secretary, tried to persuade the Boer Government to grant the franchise to the Uitlanders, but in vain, and in October, 1899, the Boers of the Transvaal declared war against England, and were joined by the Orange Free State. Hostilities lasted till the 31st May, 1902, when the Peace of Vereeniging was signed. After the peace Crown Colony government was introduced and continued till 1906, when responsible government was granted to the Transvaal. In 1907

Uitlanders in
the Transvaal

Jameson Raid

Peace of
Vereeniging,
1902

the same privilege was granted to the Orange Free State.

Union of
South Africa,
1910

The Union of South Africa is constituted by the South Africa Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom, 1909, and came into force May 31, 1910, when Cape Colony, Natal, the Transvaal, and the Orange Free State province were united in a legislative union under one government

West Africa

Policy of the
Home
Government in
its dealings
with West
Africa

The British possessions in West Africa are the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria, the Gambia Colony and Protectorate, the Gold Coast Colony, with Ashanti and Northern Territories, and the Sierra Leone Colony and Protectorate. The Home Government displayed the same want of a settled policy in their dealings with West Africa as it manifested in the management of Cape Colony and South Africa. The British settlements were merely fortified trading posts on a long line of coast, with little or no influence over the interior of the country, and closely intermingled with the settlements of the Danes and the Dutch. In 1828 the forts on the Gold Coast were handed over to the merchants under Government control and with a Government subsidy. In 1843 the Crown resumed control. In 1850 the Danish forts were bought. In 1865 a committee of the House of Commons reported that the ultimate object of British policy should be withdrawal from West Africa, except Sierra Leone. In 1867 the Dutch at Elmina and the English at Cape Coast Castle were the only Europeans on the Gold Coast. In 1871 the Dutch were bought out, and the English were left in sole occupation.

Colony and
Protectorate of
Nigeria

The nucleus of the Colony and Protectorate of

Nigeria was the town of Lagos and the adjacent coast-line lying east of the Gold Coast in the Bight of Benin, which were purchased from a native chief in 1861 as a provision against the Slave Trade, which was the prominent influence on the West Coast. Lagos was included in the Gold Coast Colony, 1874-86, and became a separate colony and protectorate in 1886. In 1899 the Niger Chartered Company surrendered its charter, and two protectorates, those of Northern and Southern Nigeria, were formed out of its territories in 1900. Southern Nigeria absorbed the Niger Coast Protectorate, which was formed in 1893 out of the Protectorate of the Oil Rivers, which dated from the capture of Benin in 1895.

In 1906 Lagos and Southern Nigeria were united. In 1910 Northern and Southern Nigeria were united to form the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria under a Governor-General with separate Lieutenant-Governors for the Northern and Southern Provinces.

The British have possessed a fort and trading factory at the mouth of the River Gambia from the time when they first began to trade with Africa. The colony proper and its capital Bathurst, founded 1816, lies on St. Mary's Island in the Gambia river, but a protectorate has been proclaimed over both banks of the river for a distance of 150 miles from its mouth, where lies M'Carthy's Island, which is also included. The Protectorate runs up to the Anglo-French boundary.

The Gambia
Colony and
Protectorate

The Gold Coast stretches for 334 miles along the Gulf of Guinea between the French Ivory Coast and what was lately German Togoland. One of its chief towns, Cape Coast Castle, was the site of the first English settlement in Africa.

The Gold Coast
Colony, with
Ashanti and
Northern
Territories

The Ashantis were a fighting race who early in the century defeated and slew in battle Sir Charles M'Carthy, Governor of the Gold Coast. In 1873-74 Sir Garnet Wolseley's force defeated them and captured their capital, Coomassie. In 1896 the Ashanti country was placed under British protection, and a British Resident was stationed at Coomassie. The Ashantis rebelled, and after another war their country was annexed, 1901.

In 1901 the Northern Territories, lying to the north of the eighth parallel of north latitude, bounded on the west and north by the French possessions, and on the east by the late German possessions, was placed under British protection.

The Sierra
Leone Colony
and
Protectorate

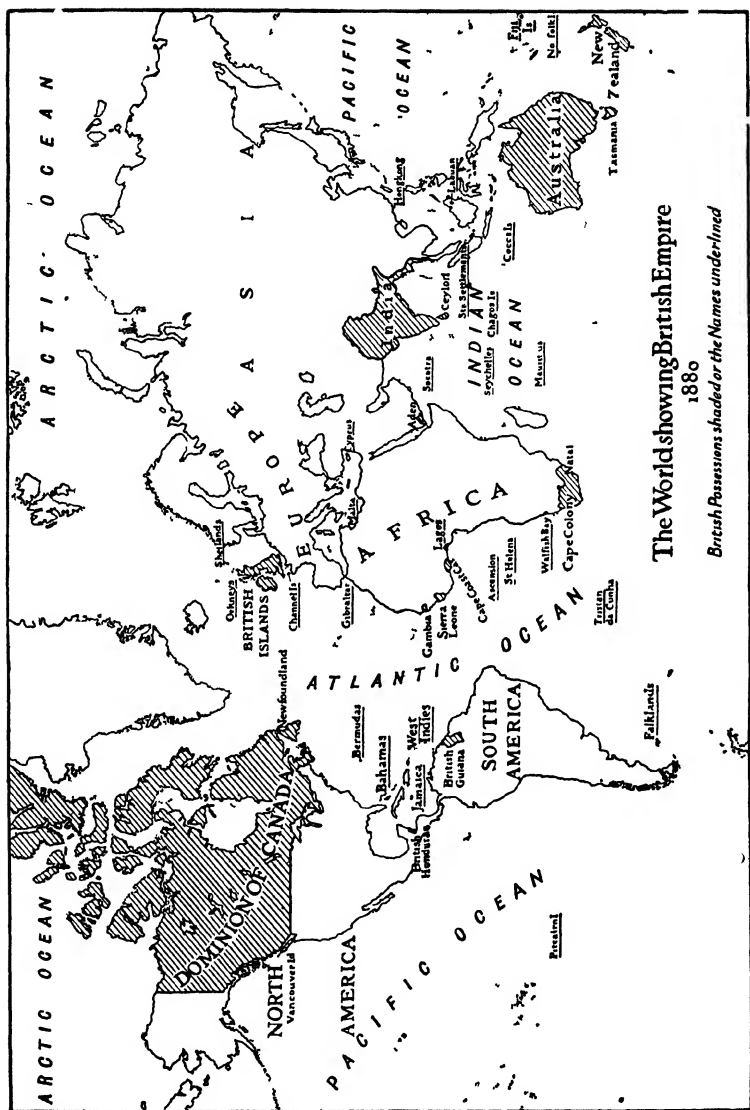
Sierra Leone lies between French Guinea on the north and the Republic of Liberia on the east and south-east. It was made a Crown Colony in 1808.

The Protectorate was declared in 1913, and includes all the territories, not belonging to the Colony of Sierra Leone, which lie between the sixth and tenth parallels of north latitude and the tenth and fourteenth degrees of west longitude.

Before describing the Colonies and Protectorates in South Africa (not included in the Union) and in East Africa, it is necessary to give a brief account of the discoveries made in Africa, and of the Chartered Companies operating in Africa and Borneo.

Geographical
discoveries

Early in the nineteenth century Mungo Park was sent out by the Association for the Promotion of Geographical Discovery in Africa. He explored the upper waters of the Niger, Clapperton carried on his work, and Lander traced the course of the Niger to the sea. About the middle of the nineteenth century



David Livingstone discovered Lakes Ngami and Nyassa, made his way from west to east across Africa from Loanda to Quillimane, and traced the courses of the Zambesi and Shire rivers

Speke discovered the Victoria Nyanza lake, and with Grant entered Uganda and solved the problem of the source of the Nile Baker discovered the Albert Nyanza lake, and Stanley explored the Congo

Chartered
Companies

Towards the end of the nineteenth century the experiment of Chartered Companies was revived, but they differed from the former companies in that monopoly of trade was expressly forbidden in their charters, and the British Government assumed no sovereignty over the territories acquired by the companies as long as their charters lasted

British North
Borneo
Company

In 1881 the British North Borneo Company was incorporated and acquired territorial rights from the Sultans of Brunei and Sulu In 1888 a British Protectorate was proclaimed over North Borneo In 1906 the Sultan of Brunei handed over the administration of his state to a British Resident

Royal Niger
Company

In 1886 the Royal Niger Company was incorporated, but it surrendered its charter in 1899

Imperial British
East Africa
Company

In 1888 the Imperial British East Africa Company was incorporated, but it was bought out in 1895

British South
Africa Company

In 1899 the British South Africa Company was incorporated mainly through the efforts of Cecil Rhodes

Colonies and
Protectorates in
South Africa
not included in
the Union

Basutoland

Basutoland was formerly under the Government of Cape Colony, but the people elected of their own free will to be placed under the direct authority of the Crown in 1883-84 It is governed by a Resident Commissioner under the authority of the Governor-

General of the Union of South Africa, who is also High Commissioner for South Africa

The Bechuanaland Protectorate includes the territory lying between the Molopo river on the south to the Zambezi on the north, and extending from the Transvaal and Matabeleland on the east to what was lately German South-West Africa on the west ¹ It was declared to be within the British sphere of influence in 1885, after General Sir Charles Warren's expedition which prevented the Boer attempt to seize the country and cut off the British from expansion towards Central Africa The High Commissioner for South Africa is the ultimate authority for Bechuanaland

Bechuanaland
Protectorate

Swaziland, a country in the south-eastern corner of the Transvaal, is governed by a Resident Commissioner under the authority of the High Commissioner for South Africa

Swaziland

Rhodesia includes the whole of the region extending from the Transvaal Province northwards to the borders of the Congo State and what was lately German East Africa,² it is bounded on the east by Portuguese East Africa, and Nyassaland, and on the west by the Congo State, Portuguese West Africa, and Bechuanaland It includes two territories, Northern and Southern Rhodesia, which are separated by the Zambezi river.

Rhodesia

The capital of Southern Rhodesia is Buluwayo, which up to 1893 was the head kraal of the Matabele chief Lobengula Mashonaland, part of Southern

¹ German South-West Africa was conquered by an expedition under General Botha sent from the British Union of South Africa in 1915

² German East Africa was conquered by an expedition under General Smuts from British South Africa in 1915 16

Rhodesia, was occupied, 1890, and Matabeland, another part, was conquered in 1893 because the warlike Matabeles persisted in oppressing the Mashonas, who were under British protection. The Matabeles rebelled in 1896, but have been quiet since.

Both Northern and Southern Rhodesia are under the administration of the British South Africa Company, whose charter was enlarged in 1891 to cover Northern Rhodesia.

Cape to Cairo
Railway

The Cape to Cairo Railway, commenced by Mr Cecil Rhodes, reached Buluwayo in 1897, the Victoria Falls bridge over the Zambezi in 1904, and was continued onwards through Northern Rhodesia to the frontier of the Congo State in 1909. Since then it has been suspended owing to the objection of the German Government to the leasing of a portion of Congo State territory to the British Government to allow of the railway passing through the Congo State.

Nyassaland
Protectorate

The Nyassaland (until 1907 called the British Central Africa) Protectorate was constituted in 1891, and lies along the southern and western shores of Lake Nyassa, and extends towards the Zambesi. It is ruled by a Governor under the Colonial Office. The government is largely based upon the work of the African Lakes Company, constituted 1878.

Colonies and
Protectorates
of East Africa

Egypt

Since the foundation of her Indian Empire, it has been of the greatest importance to Great Britain to keep the Overland Route to India from Alexandria to Suez and down the Red Sea free from obstruction.

After the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869, Mr Disraeli, then Prime Minister of England, purchased from Ismail, Khedive of Egypt, 177,000 shares in the Suez Canal for £4,000,000. In 1879 the finances of

Egypt were in a nearly bankrupt condition, and so England and France intervened to protect the interests of those of their subjects who had lent money to the Egyptian Government. The spendthrift Ismail was deposed in favour of his son Tewfik, who succeeded him as Khedive. From 1879 to 1883 two Controllers-General with considerable authority over the government of the country were appointed by France and England. This foreign intervention roused the resentment of many Egyptians.

In 1882 an officer of the Egyptian army named Arabi Pacha placed himself at the head of those who were opposed to the existing order of things, and led an army to Alexandria in rebellion against the Khedive. France was unwilling to interfere further, and abandoned what was called the Dual Control of Egypt, but England could not leave the Suez Canal to be dealt with as Arabi chose, and so she had to act alone. The forts at Alexandria, which were in Arabi's power, were bombarded by the British fleet under Sir Beauchamp Seymour, and Sir Garnet (now Lord) Wolseley defeated Arabi at the battle of Tel-el-Kebir and took him prisoner. Since Tel-el-Kebir, Egypt has been, to all intents and purposes, a Protectorate of Great Britain.

After the outbreak of war with Germany, the Khedive, Abbas Hilmi, who had joined the Turks and Germans, was deposed and succeeded by his uncle, Hussein Kamil, as Sultan of Egypt, and a British Protectorate over Egypt was formally proclaimed, December 1914.

British
Protectorate
over Egypt,
1914

In the meantime a great storm was gathering in the Soudan, which lies to the south of Egypt. It

The Soudan

had formerly been under the Egyptian Government, but had lately fallen under a Mahomedan fanatic, Mahommed Ahmed, of the Baggara tribe, who roused the Arabs of the Soudan to rebel against Egyptian domination. He called himself the Mahdī (Guide), and the twelfth Imam (Leader of Prayer) of the Mahomedans. He became powerful enough to utterly destroy an Egyptian army of 11,000 under an Englishman named Hicks Pacha at El Obeid in the province of Kordofan, south of Khartoum, and to threaten Khartoum. At this crisis an adventurous and high-minded Englishman, General Gordon, was sent to withdraw the Egyptian garrisons from the Soudan. As soon as he reached Khartoum he was besieged in it by the Mahdī's army. An English expedition was sent up the Nile under Lord Wolseley to relieve Khartoum, but the English troops arrived too late, for two days before they appeared on the scene Khartoum was betrayed into the hands of the Mahdī, and Gordon was murdered, January 25, 1895. The attempt to reconquer the Soudan was given up for a time. In 1885 the Mahdī died and was succeeded by Abdulla Taashī, who was called the Khalifa or successor of the Mahdī. The Khalifa ruled the Soudan very barbarously. The Dervishes, his fanatical followers, made constant inroads into Egyptian territory.

Meanwhile Sir Evelyn Baring, now Lord Cromer, who represented England in Egypt, had established good government there, and made receipts and expenditure balance, and Sir Herbert (afterwards Earl) Kitchener had remodelled the Egyptian army, so that the black troops from the Soudan, with

British officers to lead them, and even the native Egyptian troops were able to face the Dervishes in battle

In 1896 the reconquest of the Soudan began. The Sirdar, Sir Herbert Kitchener, advanced with a mixed army of English, Soudanese, and Egyptian troops up the Nile, with the aid of a railway built across the desert from Wadi Halfa to Abu Hamed, where the river makes its great bend, and took Dongola. Early in 1898 the Khalifa's army was completely defeated at Atbara, the battle of Omdurman, outside Khartoum, followed shortly afterwards, in which the Dervish army was almost annihilated and Khartoum taken. The Khalifa fled, but was pursued and killed the next year.

Reconquest of the Soudan

Battle of Omdurman and capture of Khartoum

A joint sovereignty of England and Egypt was proclaimed over the Soudan, which has prospered greatly under good government, and has now Port Soudan, its own commercial port on the Red Sea, which is connected with Khartoum by a railroad.

Hardly were the rejoicings over the victory of Omdurman finished, when a French officer, Major Marchand, with a small following of troops, appeared at Fashoda on the Nile, about 470 miles above Khartoum, and claimed it for France. Thus did France attempt to dispute the claim of England to dominion over the Nile valley. Lord Salisbury, the English Premier, demanded that the French Government should withdraw Major Marchand. A war with France was for a short time imminent, till the French Government consented to withdraw their troops.

Fashoda

The Somali coast of Africa, opposite Aden, from Lahadu west of Zeila to Bandar Ziyada on the 49th

Somaliland Protectorate

degree of east longitude, has been a British Protectorate since 1884, when the control of Egypt ceased. It was at first administered by the India Office till 1898, then by the Foreign Office till 1905, when it was taken over by the Colonial Office.

British East
Africa

British East Africa includes the East Africa, Uganda, and Zanzibar Protectorates.

East Africa
Protectorate

The East Africa Protectorate extends from the Uba to the Juba river, and westwards as far as the borders of Uganda.

Uganda
Protectorate

The territories comprised in the Uganda Protectorate came under British influence in 1890, and part of them, with the East Africa Protectorate, were administered by the British East Africa Company. The company had to deal with a very lawless state of things, for some of the native troops, who had been refugees after the Dervishes subdued Emin Pacha's province of Bahr el Ghazal in the Soudan, rebelled against all established authority. The company was almost bankrupt owing to the cost of operations against them, and determined to abandon Uganda in 1891.

A British Protectorate was proclaimed over Uganda and British East Africa in 1894, and the East Africa Company's rights were bought out in 1895. A railway has been constructed from Mombassa on the Indian Ocean, to Kisumu on Lake Victoria Nyanza.

The boundaries of the Uganda Protectorate are on the north the Soudan, on the east a line drawn through the middle of Lake Rudolph and along the northern boundary of the East Africa Protectorate and the north-eastern shores of Lake Victoria Nyanza, on the west its limit is the eastern boundary of the Congo.

State, on the south the German frontier and the first parallel of south latitude Both Uganda and the East Africa Protectorate are controlled by Governors and Commanders-in-Chief under the Colonial Office

The Protectorate over the islands of Zanzibar and Pemba was declared in 1890, and was recognised by France in return for the abandonment of British rights in Madagascar, and, by Germany, in return for the cession of Heligoland

Protectorate of
Zanzibar and
Pemba

The first of the wars with China was the " Opium War " When the East India Company's monopoly of trade with China was terminated, a special officer was sent out from England to supervise our trade with China, 1834 The Chinese Government forbade the importation of opium, but the English merchants in India, stimulated by the high profit made from its sale, smuggled it into the country and continued to sell it to the Chinese The Chinese Government destroyed several cargoes of opium belonging to English merchants, and the English Government then drifted into war, which lasted two years (1840-42) and was terminated by the Treaty of Nankin, 1842, by which the Chinese Government paid an indemnity for the cost of the war of £4,500,000 and a compensation of £1,250,000 for the opium destroyed They also agreed to open five ports to European commerce, including Canton and Shanghai, and to cede the island of Hongkong at the mouth of the Canton river, ninety miles south of Canton, to England Like Singapore, Hongkong became a free port, and an unprecedentedly prosperous distributing centre of goods to the whole world

China

" Opium War " with China

Treaty of
Nankin

Cession of
Island of
Hongkong

Second war
with China

About fifteen years after this, England was engaged in a second war with China. The *Arrow*, a Chinese coasting vessel or lorch, which had taken out a license to ply under the English flag, was seized by the Chinese. The English Governor of Hongkong demanded an apology from the Chinese Governor of Canton. This was refused, so Canton was bombarded and captured by the British fleet under Sir Michael Seymour, 1856, the Taku Forts were taken, and Sir F. Bruce, afterwards Lord Elgin, then negotiated the Treaty of Tientsin, 1858. By it the transit duties payable on foreign merchandise in China were reduced, and an indemnity of £4,000,000 for the expenses of the war promised. A British minister was to reside in Peking and a Chinese minister in London. The British were to be allowed to travel in China with a consul's passport, and Christianity was to be tolerated.

Treaty of
Tientsin

Third war
with China

In 1859, when the English minister, Sir F. Bruce, was sailing up the river Peiho to exchange the ratifications of the Treaty of Tientsin with the Chinese Government, he was fired on from the Taku Forts. A joint English and French expedition was then sent against China, 1860. The Taku Forts were seized and Tientsin occupied. The Summer Palace of the Emperor at Peking was burnt as a punishment for the cruel treatment of the British Consuls, who had been treacherously imprisoned by the Chinese. By the treaty of peace, 1861, the Kowloon peninsula on the mainland opposite Hongkong was ceded to England. A further portion, with the waters of Mirs and Deep Bays, measuring 376 square miles, was leased to England, 1898.

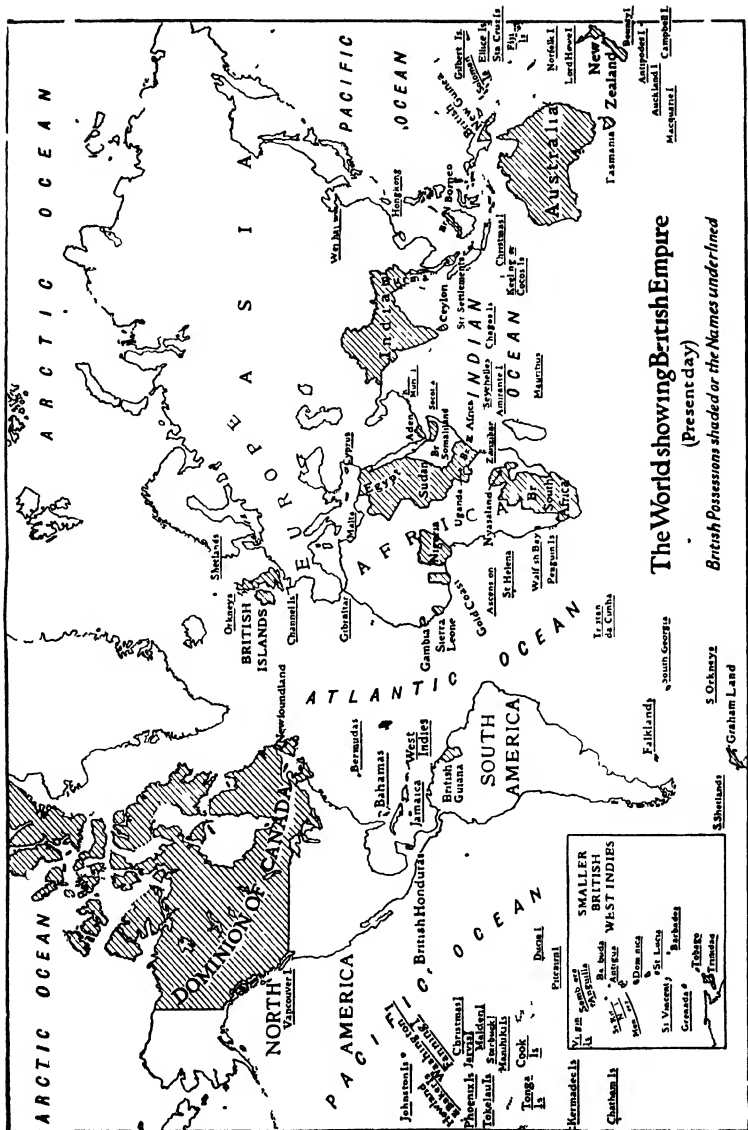
Weihaiwei in the Chinese province of Shantung Weihaiwei
with the harbour in the bay and a strip of land ten
miles inland along its coast, was leased to England
in 1898, when the Russians occupied Port Arthur and
the Germans Kiaochau

The island of Singapore, off the mainland of the The Mæ'ay
Peninsula and
Archipelago and
Eastern Pacific
Malay Peninsula, was first occupied by Sir Stamford
Raffles, under treaty with the Sultan of Johore, and
under the authority of the East India Company in
1819 In 1824 Malacca and Chinsura in Bengal were
gained from the Dutch by exchange for the English
settlement of Bencoolen in Sumatra In 1837 the
seat of government of the Straits was transferred Singapore and
the Straits
Settlements
to Singapore from Penang In 1867 it was taken
over by the Colonial Office from the India Office
In 1875 the Perak War broke out, the reason of
which was the new policy of placing British Residents
at the courts of the Malay Sultans, who were deprived
of much of their power they became constitutional
sovereigns instead of despots.

The Federation of the Malay States, of which the Federated
Malay States
most important are Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan,
and Pahang, dates from 1889 These states and some
other smaller ones form a British Protectorate under
the Governor of the Straits Settlements as High
Commissioner In 1909 Siam ceded to England her
rights of suzerainty and protection over the Malay
states of Trengganu, Kedah, and Kelantan to the
north of the Federated Malay States, which were also
declared under British protection

In 1906 the island of Labuan off the coast of Borneo Labuan
was included in the Straits Settlements.

In 1842 Sarawak, on the north-west coast of Borneo
Sarawak



Borneo, was obtained by Sir James Brooke from the Sultan of Brunei as a reward for his assistance against the Dyak pirates. The north of Borneo is under the administration of the British North Borneo Company, which obtained a charter in 1881, under grants from the Sultans of Brunei and Sulu. It was declared a British Protectorate, along with Brunei and Sarawak, in 1888. In 1906 the Sultan of Brunei handed over the general administration of his state to a British Resident. The Governor of the Straits Settlements is High Commissioner for the British possessions in Borneo.

British North
Borneo
Protectorate

Brunei

Governor of the
Straits
Settlements
High
Commissioner
for Borneo

Western Pacific

The islands of the Western Pacific in the latter part of the nineteenth century were full of a very lawless European population, traders, storekeepers, gatherers of *bêche-de-mer*, sandalwood cutters, and beach-combers or loafers who all understood no argument but force, and were a law unto themselves for want of a strong government to control them. For this reason Thakombau, the leading chief of Fiji, offered the sovereignty of the islands to Great Britain in 1858-59, but it was refused. It was eventually accepted, and the islands annexed at the advice of a conference of Australian colonies in 1874. In 1877 a High Commissioner for the Western Pacific was appointed to keep order among British subjects outside British territory.

Annexation of
Fiji

Other groups of the Western Pacific islands which were annexed by Great Britain were the Solomon, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, and the Tonga group, and a joint sovereignty over the New Hebrides was proclaimed by France and England.

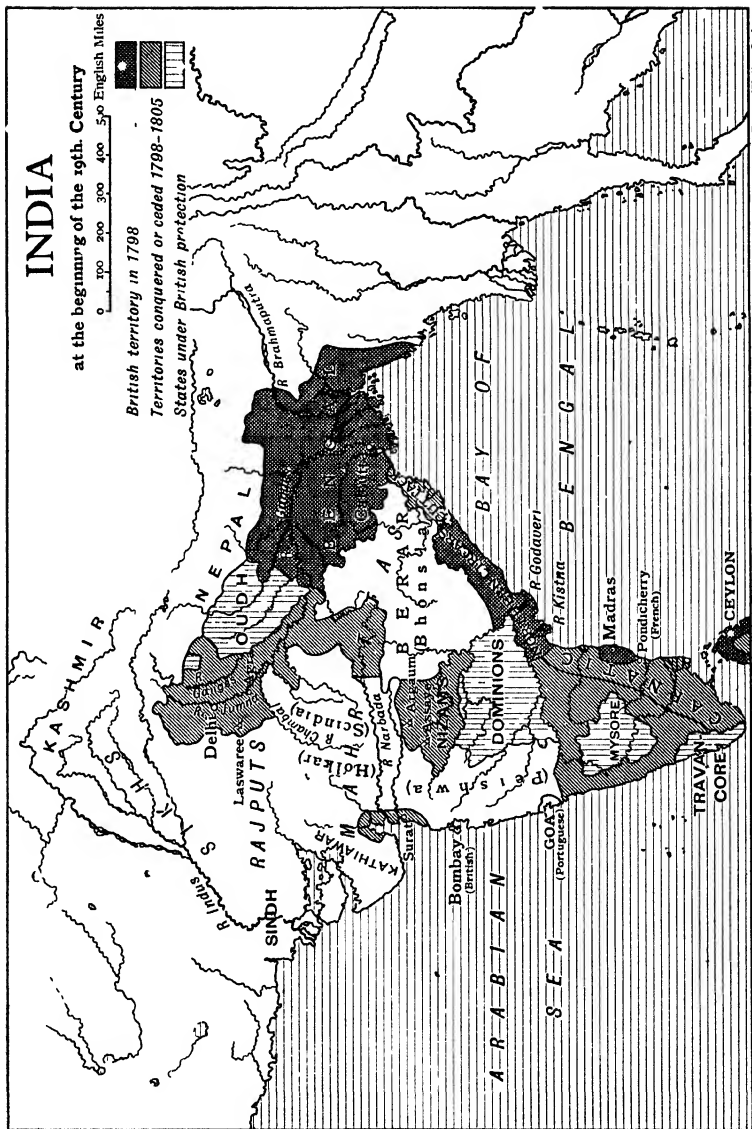
Annexation of
various groups
of islands in the
Western Pacific

at the beginning of the 19th. Century

0 100 200 300 400 500 English Miles

British territory in 1798

Territories conquered or ceded 1798-1805



CHAPTER IV

INDIA IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

AFTER the fall of Seringapatam in 1799, it was discovered that Mahomed Ali, Nawab of the Carnatic, had been in treacherous correspondence with Tipu Sultan; his territories were therefore confiscated in 1801. The English thus acquired the districts of Nellore on the north, North and South Arcot in the centre, and Madura and Tinnevely in the south of the Madras Presidency. They thus brought under their control all the territory in the present Madras Presidency from the Northern Sirkars to Cape Comorin except Pondicherry, Mahé, Karikal, Tranquebar, and the native states of Cochin and Travancore.

Annexation of the Madras districts of the Nawab of the Carnatic

In the same year, 1801, Saadat Ali, Nawab of Oudh, who was in danger of having his dominions invaded by Zeman Shah, Amir of Afghanistan, was compelled to cede the Doab, or the country between the Ganges and the Jumna and Rohilkand, to meet the expenses of the Subsidiary Force he was bound to keep up. The districts of Fatehpur and Cawnpore (lower Gangetic Doab), Gorakhpur and Azimgarh (north of the Ganges), Bareilly, Moradabad, Bijnour, Budaon, and Shahjehanpur (Rohilkand) were thus acquired by the British.

Annexation of certain districts belonging to the Nawab of Oudh

Districts ceded
by Scindia after
the Second
Mahratta War,
1803

The first great war in the period was the Second Mahratta War, which was terminated by the Treaty of Sirjee Anjengaon, 1803. By this treaty Scindia ceded the territory between the Jumna and the Ganges comprising the districts of Etawah, Mynpuri, Alighur, Bulandshahr, Meerut, Mozaffarnagar, and Saharunpur, the districts of Agra and Mathura on the right bank of the Ganges, and the Delhi districts west of the Jumna, comprising Gurgaon, Delhi, Rohtak, Hansi, Sirsa, Panipat, and Banda. He also gave up the districts of Ahmadnagar in the Deccan and Broach in Gujrat.

Districts ceded
by the Bhonsla
Raja of
Nagpur, 1803

The Bhonsla Raja of Nagpur, who was an ally of Scindia in the war, agreed, by the Treaty of Deogaon, 1803, to cede the province of Orissa and the district of Khandesh. The cession of Orissa was especially useful to the English, as it connected their territories in Bengal with the Northern Sirkars and Madras.

Cuddapah and
Bellary ceded
by the Nizam

About this time the districts of Cuddapah and Bellary, between the Tungabhadra and Mysore, were assigned to the Nizam as his share of Tipu's conquered territories, but he relinquished them to the British Government to meet the expenses of the contingent of native troops which he agreed to keep up under the Subsidiary System.

Capture of
Mauritius,
Ceylon, and
Java

Whilst Lord Minto was Governor-General of India, 1807-13, the islands of Mauritius, Ceylon, and Java were captured by expeditions sent from India, the former two were retained, the latter restored to the Dutch by the Second Peace of Paris, 1815.

War with
Nepal
Cession of
Garhwal and
Kumaon.

The war with Nepal broke out in 1813, and was terminated by the Treaty of Segowlie, 1816, by which the Gurkhas ceded Garhwal and Kumaon.

After the Third Mahratta War the Peshwa was dethroned and his dominions confiscated to form the Bombay Presidency, of which the Ahmadnagar and Broach districts formerly belonged to Scindia and were ceded in 1803

Third Mahratta War, 1817

Formation of the Bombay Presidency

The First Burmese War was terminated by the Treaty of Yandabu, 1825, by which Burma ceded the provinces of Assam, Arracan, and Tenasserim

First Burmese War
Cession of Assam, Arracan, and Tenasserim

Under Lord William Bentinck, who was Governor-General, 1828-35, the only additions made to the British Empire in India were the annexations of Coorg and Kachar

Annexation of Coorg and Kachar

Mysore, which had been placed under a scion of the old Hindu Yadav dynasty when Tipu Sultan of Mysore was dethroned and killed in 1799, was placed temporarily under British administration on account of the misgovernment of the native ruler. It was restored to the government of the Yadav dynasty under Lord Ripon in 1881

Mysore taken under British administration

Between the years 1836 and 1843 the districts of Thanesvar, Umballa, Ludhiana, and Ferozpur were annexed by the British, and the territory of the Nawab of Karnul in the north of the Madras Presidency was confiscated for disloyalty in 1841

Annexation of Thanesvar, Umballa, Ludhiana, Ferozpur, Karnul

The overland route to India across Egypt, from Alexandria to Suez and down the Red Sea to Bombay, was brought into use by Lieutenant Waghorne early in the nineteenth century.

Overland route to India

In 1839 Aden, "the Gibraltar of the Red Sea," was occupied, and its position has been strengthened by the purchase of adjoining territory in 1868, 1882, and 1888, and the occupation of the island of Perim

Aden

in 1857 The importance of Aden was increased by the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869

Protectorates
in the
neighbourhood
of Aden

A Protectorate was proclaimed over Socotra in 1875, and over the Somali coast and the ports of Berbera and Zeila on the opposite shore of Africa in 1884

Sindh

Sindh was annexed after Sir Charles Napier's campaign against the Amirs in 1844

Panjab

After the First Panjab War, 1845-46, the Jullundhur Doab (between the Sutlej and the Beas) was annexed ; after the second war, 1848-49, the whole of the Panjab shared the same fate

Second
Burmese
War, 1852

In consequence of the Second Burmese War, 1852, the towns of Rangoon, Martaban, Bassein, and Prome, and the province of Pegu were added to the British possessions in Burma

Annexation of
the province of
Pegu

Dalhousie's
Doctrine of
Lapse

Holding that British rule was a blessing to the people of India, Lord Dalhousie, who was Governor-General, 1848-56, strove to extend it by all the means in his power, and when any of the native princes died childless, he refused to recognise the right of an heir to the succession who had been adopted by the prince before his death, or his widow, unless the consent of the British Government had been previously asked Satara, 1848, and Jhansi, 1853, were annexed on the failure of direct heirs, because the British Government had not ratified the adoption before it took place Nagpur was annexed in 1853 because there was no heir at all

Annexation of
Satara, Jhansi,
and Nagpur

Berar taken
under British
administration

Berar was handed over to be administered by the British because the Nizam's payment for his Subsidiary Force was in arrears Lord Curzon entered into an agreement with the Nizam by which the

province was permanently leased to the British Government

Oudh was annexed on account of continual misgovernment on the 4th February, 1856

Annexation of Oudh

After the suppression of the Indian Mutiny, India was transferred to the direct government of the Crown exercised through a Secretary of State, and Lord Canning, the Governor-General, became the first Viceroy of India under the Act for the better government of India, 1858

Act for the better government of India, 1858

The Bhutan Doars, which are now a portion of the Julpauri district of Bengal, were incorporated in British territory after the Bhutan War, 1864

Annexation of the Bhutan Doars

After the second Afghan War, 1878-80, the Kuram valley on the north-west frontier of India was taken from Afghanistan, and Quetta, with the districts of Pishin and Sibi, were ceded by the Khan of Khelat. The Khan of Khelat was declared under British protection, and the province of British Beluchistan was thus formed

Second Afghan War, 1878-80
Annexation of the Kuram valley and Quetta with the districts of Pishin and Sibi
Province of British Beluchistan formed

The annexation of the Zhob valley, which previously belonged to Afghanistan, took place in 1890

Annexation of the Zhob valley

The Third Burmese War 1886, was followed by the annexation of Upper or Independent Burma, January, 1887

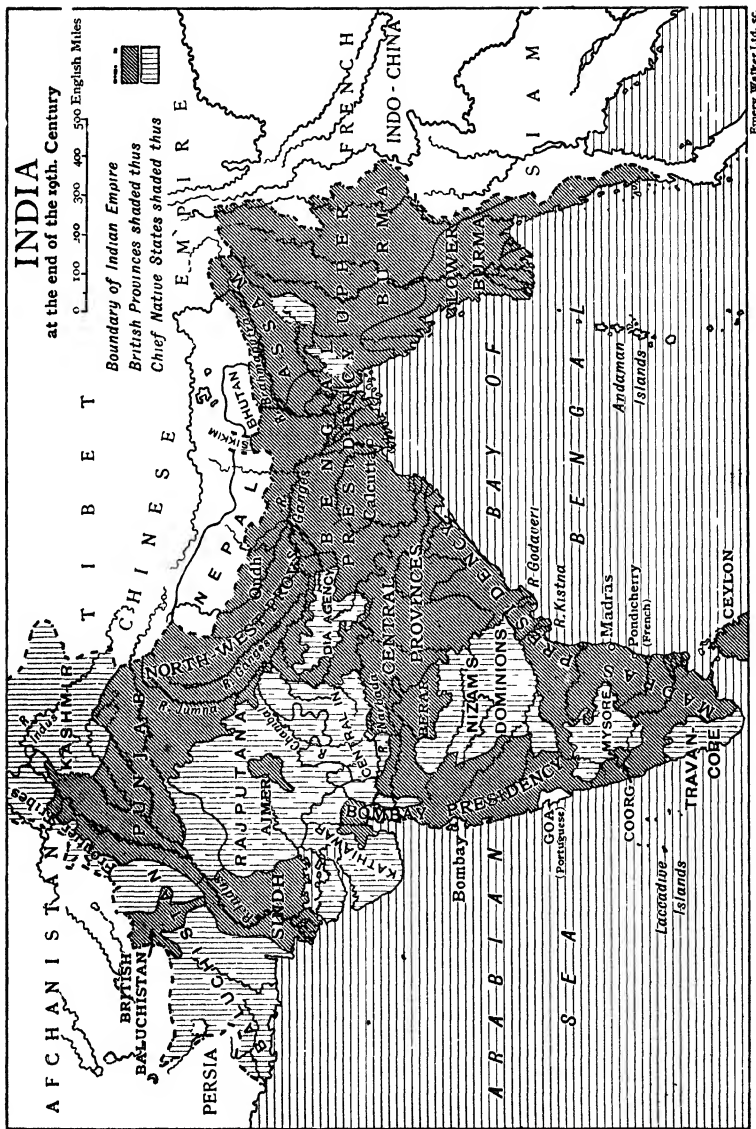
Third Burmese War, 1886

In 1893 the Durand Mission was sent to Afghanistan, and the demarcation of the British and Afghan spheres of influence in the No Man's Land on the North-West Frontier between Afghanistan and British India was the result

Demarcation of British and Afghan spheres of influence on the North-West Frontier of India

The permanent occupation of Chitral and the establishment of a British Agent there followed the expedition of 1895, which was despatched to rescue

Chitral



the British Agent, who was besieged in Chitral fort Chitral was permanently occupied in order to secure an important strategic position from which a flank attack might be made on a Russian force invading India through the passes of the Hindu Kush mountains

When Lord Curzon became Viceroy in 1898, almost his first step was to form the North-West Frontier Province of the four Trans-Indus districts of Peshawar, Kohat, Bannu, and Dera Ismail Khan, and the six political agencies of Dir, Swat, Chitral, the Khyber, the Tochi Valley, and Wano. Lord Curzon's policy was to take the North-West Frontier and the tribes in the British Sphere of Influence beyond the frontier out of the jurisdiction of the Panjab Government and to place them more directly under the supervision of the Government of India.

Creation of the
North-West
Frontier
Province, and
of the six
Political
Agencies
among the
tribes in the
British Sphere
of Influence

CHAPTER V

PRESENT AND FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF THE COLONIES ECONOMIC POLICY FOR THE EMPIRE BENEFITS WHICH THE EMPIRE CONFERS UPON ITS SUBJECTS

Classes into
which the
Colonies are
divided

THE British Colonies are divided into three classes

1 The Self-Governing Dominions possessing Responsible Government Responsible Government means that executive officers are responsible to the ministry, and the Home Government in London has no control over them, though it still appoints the Governor or Governor-General and retains a veto on legislation

2 Those possessing representative institutions The representative institutions generally consist of a Legislative Council, the members of which are nominated by the Governor, but there is sometimes an elective element—and an elected House of Assembly In such colonies the Crown has a veto on legislation, and the Home Government controls the public officers Some of the oldest constitutions, such as those of Bermuda, Barbados, and the Bahamas, are included in this class

3 Crown Colonies, which are entirely controlled by the Home Government In Ceylon, a typical Crown

Colony, the Governor is assisted by an Executive Council composed of officials, and a Legislative Council of twenty-one members, of whom ten are unofficial, six being nominated by the Governor and four elected as representing the different classes in the country. The constitutions of the Crown Colonies, however, vary. In Gibraltar, which is ruled as a fortress, the Governor, who is also Commander-in-Chief, exercises all the functions of government and legislation.

There are besides Protectorates and Spheres of Influence. The word Protectorate implies the control of the foreign relations of the country over which it is exercised combined with superintendence over the internal government through a Resident. The original government of the country is left in possession of a certain amount of power. The phrase Sphere of Influence implies control of the foreign relations of the territory, and the right of access to it at all times, and that other nations who have recognised the Sphere of Influence are precluded from interfering with the territory.

In 1893, by the Durand Agreement between the Amir of Afghanistan and the Government of India, the tribes on the north-west frontier of India between India and Afghanistan were divided into the English and Afghan Spheres of Influence.

By the agreement of 1907 between England and Russia, Persia has been partitioned into the Russian and English Spheres of Influence with a Neutral Zone between them.

It remains to notice certain minor differences in the government of the Self-Governing Colonies. The

Protectorates
and Spheres of
Influence

Differences
in the
constitutions of
the Self-
Governing
Colonies

Senate or the Upper House of the Canadian Parliament is nominated by the Governor-General on the advice of his ministers. In Australia all the states return the same number of members to the Senate, and the members are elected by each State voting as a single constituency, and all adults, whether male or female, have votes.

The Federal Parliament of Canada possesses all the powers which have not been expressly entrusted to the State Legislatures, in Australia the State Legislatures possess all the powers which have not been expressly reserved for the Federal Parliament.

Policy of the
mother country
to her daughter
states

The loss of the United States taught the English a lesson, for they have gradually learnt the right method of dealing with the colonies is to allow them the fullest measure of political liberty and to recognise them as "daughter in her mother's house, but mistress in her own." Canada and Australia have their own army and navy. New Zealand and South Africa have their Defence Forces, and have built and presented ships to the Imperial Navy. The Imperial Army and Navy, for which all colonials are eligible, is nevertheless a great bond of union.

Ties uniting the
different parts of
the Empire

Never has this policy been more completely justified than in the present war, when our enemies hoped that the colonies would sever all connection with England and leave her severely alone. This opinion disregarded the ties which hold together the different parts of our far-flung empire. Englishmen, wherever they may be, are all subjects of one king, the symbol of the unity of the race. There was only the sense of kinship thus engendered, the bond of sentiment and tradition, and the opinion that justice

was on her side, to rally the colonies to the support of the mother-country, but the link stood the strain, and the young men of the colonies joined the colours in thousands, to jeopardise their lives to the death, in a cause that was not directly theirs

Foreign affairs are at present the prerogative of the Home Government, and the colonies can make no treaties with foreign powers, except through the intervention of England. The inhabitants of Greater Britain overseas can justly complain of being expected to fight for the Empire when they have no voice in shaping its policy. There is no doubt they ought to have such a voice, the problem is how they should make their voice heard. An Imperial Conference consisting of the English Premier and Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Premiers of the five Self-Governing Colonies met in 1887, the year of the Queen's Jubilee, and was repeated in 1897 and 1907. The Imperial Conference was only consultative, but a similar body might be formed of delegates from the mother-country, the five Self-Governing Colonies, and perhaps India, with statutory powers to discuss and settle all matters concerning the Empire as a whole, such as a common foreign and economic policy. Such a body might be developed into an Imperial Parliament.

Constitution
for the
Empire

The difficulty of Home Rule for Ireland might be met by the policy of Home Rule all round, with State Legislatures for Great Britain and Ireland empowered to deal with local matters. When the scheme of Imperial Federation is complete, it will include an Imperial Parliament sitting in London with its own

Executive responsible to it, and its separate electorate. The local legislatures for Great Britain and Ireland will also have their own executives and electorates. In such a Council of the Empire it might be hoped that matters of imperial importance would be treated with a becoming breadth of view, and that the Little Englanders, of whom there are too many in the House of Commons as at present constituted, would find no place in such a body. It has been truly said "how little they know of England, who only England know," and to call to the Council of the Empire statesmen whose experience is derived from our rich and growing possessions over-seas, cannot but be an immense step in advance. Some such step as this is necessary to enable England to depend upon the whole population and resources of her vast Empire, without which she cannot hope to hold her own with other first-class powers.

Economic
Policy for the
Empire

We have seen that the first economic policy of the Empire was one of Navigation Laws intended to ensure the monopoly of the export trade of the colonies to the mother-country. This policy was successful in its object of fostering the growth of a powerful navy, but it acted oppressively in thwarting the trade of the colonies, and concessions were made in important points. When the English fiscal system was reconstituted after the Napoleonic wars, all restrictions upon natural liberty were condemned, and it was held that men should be free to buy and sell in the process of international trade wherever the best profit was available. In agreement with these ideas, George Huskisson, President of the Board of Trade, passed the Reciprocity of Duties Act, 1823, which so far

modified the Navigation Laws as to provide that English and foreign should have equal commercial privileges in English ports if the foreign country concerned treated English ships in an equally liberal fashion. In 1846 Sir Robert Peel passed a bill for the gradual abolition of the duties on foreign corn up to 1849, when only a registration duty of 1s a quarter was to remain in force. In 1849 Lord John Russell's ministry repealed the Navigation Laws altogether. The effect of this legislation was profound. England concentrated her labour on manufacture, agriculture fell off in importance, and the influence of the landed interest decreased. England was no longer self-sufficing, and became largely dependent upon imported supplies for the food of the people.

Modification of
the Navigation
Laws

Establishment
of Free Trade

In the present war Germany has endeavoured to starve England out by using her submarines to sink ships conveying food to England. Germany has not succeeded in starving the people, but only in causing a rise in the price of food, which is causing dangerous discontent. Free Trade was largely responsible for our want of preparation at the outbreak of war with Germany. There was a scarcity of medical drugs for the troops and no optical glass for telescopes, as it had been customary to import both glass and drugs from Germany. Free Trade was not an unmixed blessing in the time of peace. German submarines and commerce destroyers have still further diminished our national faith in Free Trade in the time of war.

Effect of the
Emancipation
of the Slaves
and of Free
Trade upon the
West Indies
and other
British tropical
possessions

In 1833 a measure with important economic consequences was passed by the British Parliament. This was the emancipation of all the slaves in the

British Empire at the cost of a compensation of £20,000,000 to the sugar and other interests injured by their loss. The compensation proved insufficient, the freed negro will not work, except sufficiently to secure his sustenance, which does not require much labour in the fertile soil of the West Indies or other British possessions in the tropics. The importation of indentured coolies from India was tried as an alternative for negro labour. The descendants of these coolies, who many of them remained in the country when their time of service was expired, constitute a large element in the population of many of the islands, in Mauritius two-thirds, in Fiji between one-fourth and one-third, in Trinidad a third, and in the colony of British Guiana, one-half but they have proved an insufficient substitute for the emancipated negro labour.

The other mainstay of West Indian prosperity was the Sugar Trade. England's adherence to Free Trade deprived West Indian sugar of any preference in the English market. Cane sugar has still further lost ground before the cheaper beet sugar, which was started by Napoleon I, Emperor of the French, and has been almost entirely ousted from the markets of France and Germany. From these two causes the prosperity of the West Indies has been irretrievably ruined.

Expectations
from Free
Trade which
were un-
realised

Richard Cobden, the apostle of Free Trade, believed that, if Free Trade were everywhere prevalent, it would be an useless expense to keep up colonies and an empire, and that all distinctions of nationality would be obliterated, and the whole world would become one great peaceful market. As the nineteenth



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JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN

century drew to its close, Englishmen began to lose faith in the universal applicability of the Free Trade panacea. Agricultural depression was felt acutely when wheat from Dakota and Manitoba came into competition with English home-grown wheat, prices fell when the new gold supplies from the Transvaal began to flood the European markets, and the cry was for Fair Trade not Free Trade, when the continental powers began to exclude English produce by tariff walls.

Depression of
Agriculture and
Trade at the
end of the
nineteenth
century

The British Government, by its adhesion to the policy of no taxes except for revenue, had deprived itself of the power to offer any concession to secure the admission of English goods into continental countries on more favourable terms. Several important English industries had been ruined by the practice of Dumping. This means that American Trusts or German Cartels (Trading Associations), secure of the high prices which the tariff ensured them in their own countries, could afford to ruin the English manufacturer by selling under cost price in England. When they had driven the English manufacturer out of the trade, they could raise their prices to the English consumer at their pleasure.

Powerlessness
of the British
Government to
secure better
fiscal treatment
from foreigners
for its subjects

Dumping

In the early years in the twentieth century, the great empire builder, Joseph Chamberlain, brought forward Tariff Reform, as an alternative to Free Trade as an economic policy for the Empire. The reform was to consist in the admission by the mother-country and the colonies of each other's goods at a preferential rate, whilst foreign goods were only to be admitted at a higher rate of duty. Chamberlain believed that these mutual concessions would

Tariff Reform

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Depression of Agriculture and Trade at the end of the nineteenth century

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Powerlessness of the British Government to secure better fiscal treatment from foreigners for its subjects

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Tariff Reform.

strengthen the bonds uniting the Empire. The time for promulgating the new doctrine was favourable. Mr Balfour's ministry had imposed a registration duty on all imported corn; this might have been imposed on all corn of foreign origin, and colonial corn might have been relieved of the tax, but the free trade fanatics would not allow this. At the General Election which followed, Chamberlain's policy was rejected on account of the cry "Your food will cost you more." No heed was paid to Chamberlain's reply that even if food cost more, the revival of trade brought about by Tariff Reform would give the working man more than enough money to pay the extra price.

Benefits of the
Empire

The British Empire maintains peace and good government amongst its subjects, it cares for human life by taking measures against disease and for the prevention and relief of famine, it exercises impartiality among rival religions, and it deals out even-handed justice to all its subjects.

The Empire should be self-sufficing, it should not be in the power of neutrals to take advantage of our necessities at a time of war to raise the prices of our necessary raw materials at their pleasure. It is in this direction that the British Cotton Association, the object of which is to ensure that as much as possible of the cotton needed for British industry should be grown within the Empire, is doing such an important work. The more widely the Empire is spread, the greater variety of climates it will embrace, and therefore the greater the amount and variety of commercial products it will furnish. A powerful navy is necessary to prevent England being cut

off from supplies, not only of food, but also of the raw materials of industry. When goods are manufactured, we must have markets wherein to sell them, and in this point again the Empire is beneficial, for trade follows the flag, and though we share our commercial advantages with all other nations, the further the Empire extends the better is the market for British goods

“ Britain built up her empire piecemeal, for the most part reluctantly, always reckoning up and dreading the cost, hating the responsibility of expansion, and shouldering it only when there seemed no other course open to her in honour or safety ” As has been well said, she “ stumbled ” on her empire. The Empire is a natural growth, statesmen have struggled against its expansion and the increase of their responsibilities, but their purpose was thwarted by various causes, and the Empire has expanded all the same

The Empire
a natural
growth

The present war is a time of stress and danger such as the Empire has never known, it is a time of trial in which the work of the Empire builders has been tested more strictly than ever before, but the gifts and offers of service that have come from all over the world, and the absence of anything more than isolated attempts at rebellion, surely show that the subjects of the British Empire are in the main happy and contented under its sway

The war a time
of trial from
which the
Empire has
successfully
emerged

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